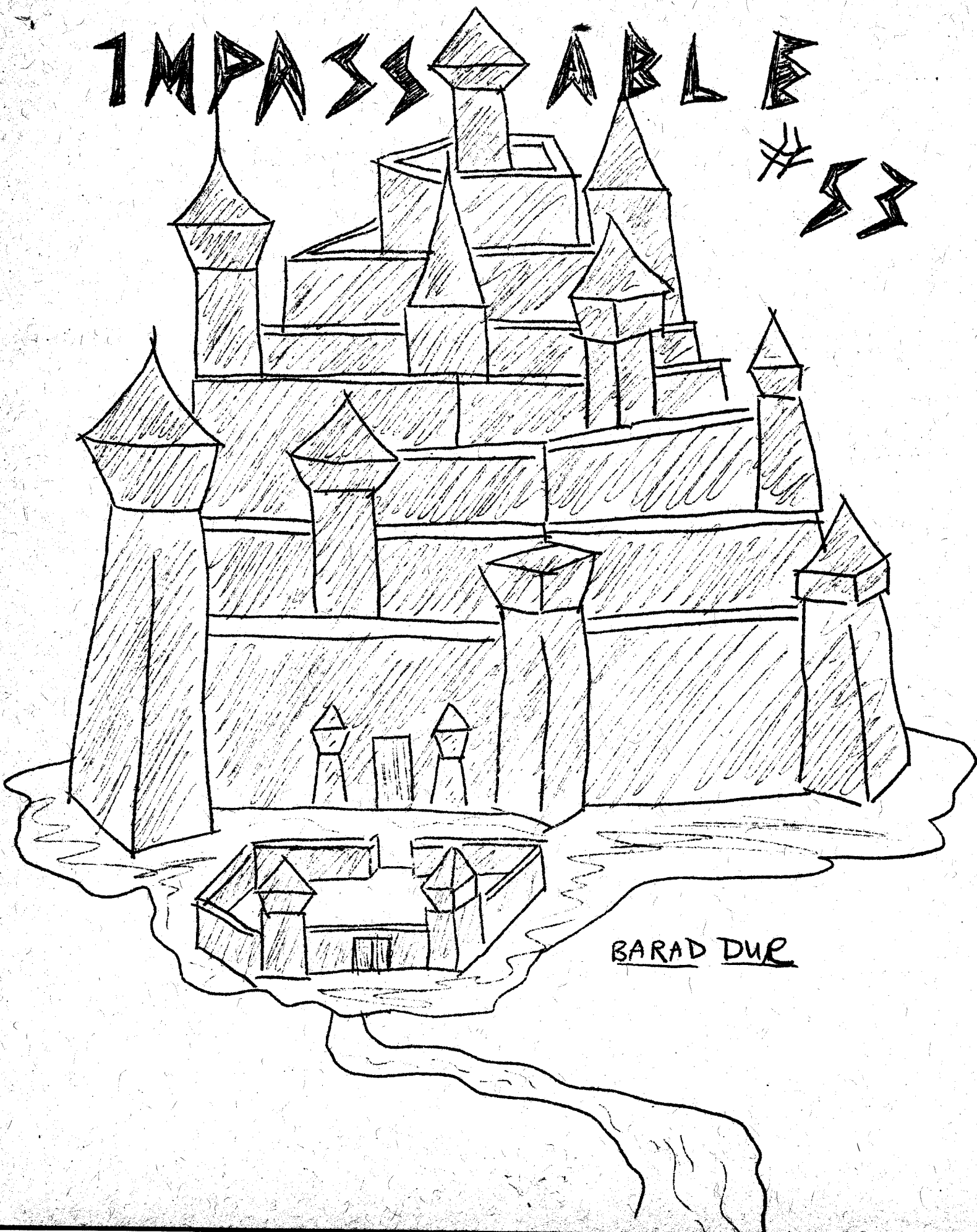


IMPASSABLE



BARAD DUR

Impassable is a postal journal of Diplomacy published and edited by John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. Phone: (717) 249-1343, between 9 and 10:30 p.m., E.D.S.T., any night except Tuesdays. Sub to Impassable is 12/\$2.00. Shorter sub of 6/\$1 is available for newbloods. This is a tri-weekly gamezine, a subsidiary of Chapel Hill Publications founded in March of 1972.

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Front Cover: This artist's misconception of Barad Dur, mighty fortress of Sauron, infamous power from LOTR series. Inside is a four-page map adaptation of Lew Pulsipher's, Middle Earth VIII, a Diplomacy variant based on LOTR.

STANDBYS

No one has been called for a regular Diplomacy game, but now that Lost Horizon's variant games are in Impassable, there is a need to set-up a standby pool for its games: Scotice Scripti III (published in Impassable), 1721 (also published in Impassable), Atlantica I (Fred Winter's version of Fred Davis' variant), and Youngstown (Dbu version). You need to have the map/rules in order to be a standby. Let me know which game!

There has been no new additions to the regular dippy list of standbys (nor do we really need anymore!).

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ZINE REVIEW

THE MASTER MACHIAVELLIAN, #11. Michael G. Homeier, 238 N. Bowling Green Way, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Ditto. Sub is 12/\$2.50. GF is \$1.00 regular dip + sub and \$1.50 for Colonia variant + sub. Monthly.

QUO VADIS, #48. Dick Vedder, 1451 N. Warren, Tucson, AZ 85719. Ditto. No openings, but needs standbys for its variant games. Sub is 10/\$2.00. Monthly.

RUNESTONE, #83. John Leeder, 4910 20A St. SW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5A6. Sub is 1¢/page + postage (send lump sum, he'll keep the books). Openings in variant dip: 8-Player variant, Gesta Danorum, Flintlock II, Seven Nations regular (international). GF is \$2.00 + sub. Ditto. 50¢ discount in GF for IDA members.

THE FIGHTER'S HOME. Sorry to say, only one page of six was clearly printed and/or typed. Dan Gorham is having his problems and I do not recommend subbing (anyways, I couldn't find or read anything on subs/openings....). He says he'll be at Chicago and perhaps by then things will work out with him and TFH. PELLUCIDAR, #35. Burt Labelle, Forest Park #23, Biddeford, ME 04005. Sub is 8/\$2.00. No openings in dip, but is trying to start several wargames (Wooden Ships & Iron Men, etc.). Says P will eventually phase out its dippy activities and become wargame oriented only. Mimeo.

PREDAWN LEFTIST, #3. Ben Grossman, 29 E. 9 St., #9, NY, NY 10003. Mimeo. Sub is \$2/10. Openings in reg. dip (GF \$2 + sub), Colonia, (GF \$4 + sub), Schizoid Dip (\$2 + sub). New zine and rather hip in its language and views.

CENTURION, #6. Russell Fox, 5160 Donna Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356. Mimeo. Sub is \$2/11. Has openings in Anarchy 1 (34-player game using reg. dip board, I believe), GF is \$1 deposit (refunded if you don't drop out), plus sub.

PAROXYSM, #10. Robert Correll, 44 Rawlinson Ave., Toronto, Ont., M4P 2M9, Canada (There are two others, Doug Ronson, Harry Drews). Ditto. Sub is 10/\$2.00 (send all money and subs to Harry Drews, P.O. Box 282, Kitchener, Ont., N2G 3X9, Canada). The best ditto zine in North America, I think....kinda hard to decide that!

YGGDRASIL CHRONICLE, #49. Paul Wood, 24613 Harmon, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080. Sub is (cont. page 9)

1970BJ, Summer & Fall 1916

AUSTRIA LOSES AN ARMY, BUT WHICH ONE, WHERE??

Error: Italy's A Tyo had no place to retreat since the dislodging attack came from Bohemia. Therefore, A Tyo was annihilated.

Summer 1916: Austria retreats A Mos-Ukr

Fall 1916:

AUSTRIA(Beyerlein): A Sev-Mos, A Ukr S A Sev-Mos, A Rum-Sev, A War-Liv, A Vie-Gal, A Gre-Bul, A Pie-Mar, A Tri-Ven, A Tyo S A Tri-Ven, A Alb-Tri

GERMANY(Mahler): A Kie-Den, A Ruh S A Mun-Bur, A Mun-Bur, F Hol S F Bel, F Bel H/a/

ITALY(Phillips): F Lvp-Iri, F Iri-Eng, F Eng-Bel, A Pic S Eng-Bel, A Bur-Ruh/r/ (Par, Gas), A Mar-Pie, A Tus-Ven, F Apu S A Tus-Ven, F Adr S A Tus-Ven

RUSSIA(Kelly): A Arm-Sev, A Con-Bul, A Mos-War, A Liv S A Mos-War, F Edi S F Nth, F Nwy-Swe, A Lon-Hol, F Nth C A Lon-Hol

AUTUMN & WINTER 1916 orders are due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Fall 1916 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: Hom, Ser, Bul, Rum, ~~War~~, Sev, Gre, Mos (9) R1

Germany: Hom, Hol, Den (5) B1, lost 1 F'16

Italy: Hom, Tun, Mar, Spa, Por, Bre, Par, Lvp, Bel (11) B2, lost 2 S'16

Russia: StP, Swe, Nwy, Ank, Con, Smy, Edi, Lon, War (9) B1, was 2 short, but only 1 home center open.

1972BW, Winter 1916 & Spring 1917

THE LONGEST WAR CONTINUES!

Error: Last season I neglected to print Fra order for F Nwg S F Bar.

Winter 1916:

FRANCE(Kelly): SP

GERMANY(Davies): SP

ITALY(Swies): SP

RUSSIA(Knudsen): SP

TURKEY(Abbott): B A Con

Spring 1917:

FRANCE: A Mar-Pie, A Bur-Mun, A Ruh S A Bur-Mun, A Hol S A Ruh, F Hel S F Nth, F Nth H, F Nwg S F Bar, F Bar H, F Lyo-Tus, F Tyn S Ita F Nap/otm/

GERMANY: A Ber S Rus A Kie, A Swe S Rus A Den

ITALY: F Tun S F Nap-Ion, F Nap-Ion/a/

RUSSIA: A Mun S A Kie, F Aeg-Ion, F Nwy-Bar, F Ska-Nth, A Kie S A Mun, A Gal-Sil, A Pie H, F Bal S A Kie, A Den S A Kie,

F StP(nc) S F Nwy-Bar

TURKEY: A Con H/u/, A Boh S Rus A Mun, A Ven S Rus A Pie, F Apu S A Rom-Nap, A Rom-Nap, F Ion-Tyn, F Smy-Eas, F Adr S Rus F Aeg-Ion, F Gre S Rus F Aeg-Ion

FALL 1917 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

1973BU, Spring 1920

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA LOSE ARMIES IN BOLDNESS!

COA: Walter Blank, c/o Timber Trail, 7590 Good Luck Lane, West Bend, WI 53095.

Error: Neglected to list Ger A Mun in winter listing, this gives him the 9 units.

Spring 1920:

AUSTRIA(Tonnesen): A Bud-Rum, A Gal S Tur A War, A Tyr-Mun, A Vie-Boh, A Sil-Pru/a/

ENGLAND(Greenwell): A StP-Mos, F Nwy-Swe, F Iri-Eng, A Lvp-Wal, A Spa-Mar, F Naf-Tun, F Lyo-Tyn, F Wes S F Lyo-Tyn

GERMANY(Barents): F Lon-Eng, F Eng-Mid, A Mar-Bur, A Bur-Mun, A Mun-Sil, A Ber S A Mun-Sil, A Pru S A Liv-War, A Liv-War/a/, A Boh-Gal

ITALY(Hulland): F Wal H, F Tun S Tur F Tyn, A Pie H, A Ven-Rom, A Tus S A Pie

RUSSIA(Hendry): A Mos-Liv, A Sev-Mos

TURKEY(Blank): A War S Rus A Mos-Liv, F Tyn S Ita F Tun/r/ (Nap, Ion, OTB), F Ion S Ita F Tun, F Bla S Rus A Sev/otm/, F Con-Aeg

SUMMER & FALL 1920 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Press--

From Somewhere in Deepest Wales (EPI): In view of the self-evident lack of musical ability of said Riff, he is hearby sentenced to another six months of that all-time classical, "Does your chewing gum lose its flavour on the bedpost over-night?"

1973Ddl, Completion!

Supply:

	5	6	7	8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
CONNACHT	3	2	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ENGLAND	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	-	-	-	-
KYMRU	5	7	7	6	4	3	4	4	2	2	1	2
LEINSTER	5	5	6	6	8	7	6	5	4	4	4	3
MUNSTER	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	6	6	6	5	4
ORKNEY	5	4	5	6	6	8	7	9	10	10	8	5
SCOTLAND	6	8	7	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	18	21***

(Note: 1017 was used twice in game)

Scotland won this game in 1026 since I used 1017 twice and no one told me until it was far too late, oh well!

There was no room to print the players' names, but here they are:

Connacht: Schleinkofer

England: Stone (out Autumn '16), Swies

Kymru: Reinsel (out Sp '18), Gemignani

Leinster: Hilliker (out Sp '18),

Fujihara

Munster: Cooper (Out Su'17) Dick, (Out Sp'24), Fanelli

Orkney: Keller

Scotland: Tonnesen, WINNER!

Ulster: Hollingsworth (Out S'16),

Nielsen (Out Su'17), Drews

A total of 15 players played in this game which is a poor situation, but I think that the game is pretty well balanced and the play was undoubtedly influenced by the many changes during the game. My congratulations go to Mark Tonnesen for his win as Scotland in the very first game of this variant!

FINALE: Army Cas-Lim.....As much as I enjoyed being in this game, it is my feeling that the game would have been more interesting if there had not been so much inconsistency. This inconsistency when I entered the game manifested itself in the lack of consistent play by the smaller powers (Kymru, Leinster, Munster). This is especially true in the case of Munster. The failure to coordinate moves and the number of missed moves made it a rather easy task for Scotland and Orkney to press forward their united attack. This inconsistent play, above all, enabled Scotland to gain the win since the other players were able to maintain a consistently united effort to stand up against the growing power of Scotland ((ED: insert "never" after the word, "were"))).

My best wishes to all in this game and I hope we meet again. Signed David Fujihara
KYMRU: I wish to congratulate Scotland for a wonderful and well-played game. ((Due to local customs enforced by Stonehenge, the last chapter of the Witch's Words are hereby struck from the records of Ireland and England.--Ed.))

1974HN, Autumn & Winter 1903

POWERS THAT BE.....

Autumn 1903: Ita R A Mun-Boh; Rus R F Bot-Liv

Winter 1903:

AUSTRIA(Osmanson): SP
ENGLAND(Fujihara): SP
FRANCE(McKeon): B F Mar
GERMANY(Kelly): SP
ITALY(Tonnesen): D A NAF
RUSSIA(Blank): B F Sev
TURKEY(Davies): SP

Note: COA for Walter Blank--see game 1973BU for address.

SPRING 1904 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 At noon, E.D.S.T.

Winter 1903 Positions:

Austria: F Aeg, A Tyr, A Alb, A Gre, A Ser;
England: F Ska, A Nwy, F Nth, F Bar; France: F Mid, F Wes, A Spa, F Lyo, A Mun, F Mar;
Germany: A Ruh, A Kie, F Bot, F Swe; Italy: A Pic, F Tyn, F Tun, A Boh; Russia: A Sil, A Ber, A StP, A Mos, F Bul(ec), F Liv, F Sev;
Turkey: F Con, A Smy, F Eas.

1974HY, Summer & Fall 1903

ENGLAND FALLS, AUSTRIA TEETERS ON EDGE AND
TURKEY AILS WITH SOMETHING AS EAST-WEST
SHOWDOWN BEGINS TO SHAPE UP IN FIERCE WAR!

Summer 1903: Austria R A Bul-Ser; Rus R A
Gal-War; Tur R F Bla-Con

Fall 1903:

AUSTRIA(Callahan): A Gal-Vie, A Bud S A
Ser-Tri, A Ser-Tri

ENGLAND(Gemignani): F Nwg-Swe/r/(Cly, Nat,
OTB), F Yor-Lon

FRANCE(McLendon): A Bur-Mun, A Bre-Pic, A
Par S A Bre-Pic, F Wal-Lvp, F Mid-Eng,
F Lon S F Mid-Eng

GERMANY(Fanelli): A Kie S A Ruh-Mun, A Ruh-
Mun, A Bel-Edi, F Nth C A Bel-Edi, F
Hol S F Nth, A Pic-Bel

ITALY(Kendter): A Vic-H, A Tri S A Vie,
F Adr S A Tri, A Gre H, F Ion S A Gre

RUSSIA(Gallagher): F Nwy S F Bar-Nwg, A
Swe H, A Sev-Arm, F Rum-Bul(ec), F
Bla S F Rum-Bul(ec), F Bar-Nwg, A War-
Gal

TURKEY(Cooper): A Bul-Gre/a/, F Aeg S A
Bul-Gre, F Con-Bul(ec)

AUTUMN & WINTER orders (1903) due Friday,
August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Fall 1903 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: ~~Vie~~, Bud, Ser, ~~Tri~~, ~~Boh~~ (2) R1,
lost 2

(cont. next page)

England: ~~Edi~~, ~~Lvp~~ (0) R2, out of game
 France: Hom, Spa, Lon, Por, Lvp (7) B1
 Germany: Hom, Hol, Den, Bel, Edi (7) B1
 Italy: Hom, Tun, Tri, Vie, Gre (7) B2
 Russia: Hom, Swe, Nwy, Rum, Bul (8) B1
 Turkey: Hom (3) B1, lost 1

Press---

Munich: Refugees have been streaming in daily from across the Austro-Hungarian frontier. Camps have been set up outside of this city in order to accomodate the unfortunates. Officials expressed dismay over the stepping up of hostilities to the south. Said one high-placed authority: "Not only is this senseless war a threat to the security of a unified Germany, but it is also hurting innocent bystanders by killing them to death."

1975G, Spring 1903

RUSSIAN INFANTRY FORCES READY TO CONQUER!!!

AUSTRIA(Hinmon): A Vie-Gal, A Bud-Rum, A Bul S A Bud-Rum, F Gre S A Bul, A Tri-Vie, F Alb-Tri
 ENGLAND(Cooper, T.): F Lon S Ger F Nth-Eng, F Cly-Lvp, A Wal-Lvp
 FRANCE(Kirk): A Spa-Mar, A Gas-Bur, A Pic-Par, F Eng S A Pic/otm/, F Iri S F Eng
 GERMANY(Amer): A Mun-Ber, A Ruh-Mun, A Bel-Pic, A Bur S A Bel-Pic, F Den H, F Nth-Eng
 ITALY(Young): A Pie-Mar, A Apu-Ven, F Tyn-Lyo, F Ion H
 RUSSIA(Sabo): A Rum-Ank/r/(Ukr, Sev, OTB), F Bla C A Rum-Ank, F Arm S A Rum-Ank, A War-Pru, F Swe-Bal, A Nwy-Swe, F Bar-Nwy
 TURKEY(Kendter, Jr.): F Ank S A Con, A Con S F Ank, F Smy-Aeg

SUMMER & FALL 1903 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Press--

London: Lord Kirchner has been incarcerated in the Dartmour House for the Insane. King Edward took this radical step after having read the last exchange of messages with Germany and France which border on sophomeric idiocy. The King said, "I am hopeful that this temporary special care for Lord Kirchner will bring him to his senses."

Saint Petersburg: Rumors from the War Ministry confirm the embarkation of an elite force from Norway via a Germany fleet in the North Sea. Their destination is unknown.

Buckingham Palace: In view of the fact that the French have shown themselves to be ungentlemanly in their conduct, renegeing on their promises time and time again, King Edward VI has decreed that the French shall henceforth be referred to as jive turkeys.

1975T, Winter 1902

ITALY MOVES UPON RESERVE BRAIN POWER POOL!

Note: It is my hr to remove a player for missing 2 seasons straight. But, since Kutta is in the military and subject to quick decisions by the military, I am giving him one more chance. He has been relocated way out in the Pacific Ocean at:

Lt. Timothy Kutta, 178-44-4816
 F.P.O. Seattle, WA

H&S Company
 1st Battalion, 9th Reg.
 CAMP SCHWAB
 3rd Marine Division
 OKINAWA

For the time being, Edi Birsan is Italy and I really doubt if I'll be hearing from Kutta!
COA: Jim Lawson, 146 Holmwood Ave., Calgary, Alberta, T2K 2G8, Canada

Winter 1902:

AUSTRIA(Mahler): B F Tri
 ENGLAND(Drews): B F Lon
 FRANCE(Lawson): B F Bre
 GERMANY(Warden): SP
 ITALY(Birsan?Kutta?): D A Tun
 RUSSIA(Lakofka): D F Bot
 TURKEY(Hulland): B A Smy

SPRING 1903 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Winter 1902 Positions:

Austria: A Tyr, A Rom, F Ion, A Sil, A Ukr, A Rum, F Tri (7); England: A StP, F Bar, F Nth, F Edi, F Lon (5); France: F Wes, A Bel, A Hol, A Bur, A Mar, F Bre (6); Germany: A Ruh, A Mun, A Kie, F Den (4); Italy: A Apu, F Nap, F Ion (3); Russia: A War, A Mos, (2); Turkey: F Con, F Bas, A Sev, A Arm, A Smy (5).

Press--

Boyerski--The Night Stalker:

April 13, 1975, 7:14 p.m.....

Suzan Przybylski walked along Fullerton Avenue Beach toward the yet unopened summer stock theater. Within the open air arcade there was some shelter from the fog that was rolling in off of Lake Michigan. Suzan
 (cont. next page)

brushed back her hair and absently fixed her makeup. She stared into the mirror of the small coarsely lit restroom in the basement of the theater. Suzan reflected on how sullen and wan she looked, admired the bejewelled coin that hung about her neck, and after scrawling upon the mirror with a lip-stick, drew out a pistol and did a rather poor job of an impromptu tonsillectomy.

April 13, 1975, 8:04 p.m.....

Joan Drews had just become engaged to "the most handsome man in the world", Richard Swies as they walked along the lake after a visit to Lincoln Park Zoo. Joan was in heaven as she tripped down the stairs to the ladies' room to 'powder her nose' and re-adjust her freshly crumpled clothing. She was literally in Heaven a few seconds later because she came between a hunter and his prey.

There, before her, he knelt over the body of Suzan Przybylski. Joan repressed a scream and backed away slowly towards the door, she stumbled and slowly he turned. The mummy-like eyeless face seemed to scan her. The terror rose in her but she could not voice it. From his hand a coin dangled from a golden chain. Thickly, from deep within the body came the words, "Mine Again!" It held up its arm and Joan Drews laughed no more, the promise she made was broken in one night, the troth unlighted.

April 14, 1975, 9:11 a.m.....

John Boyerski arrived at the I.N.A. Offices still puzzling over the bodies found in the upstairs Newtown bedroom two days before. A few hours later he would view two more withered corpses. One was the wife of one of the prior days' victims, and another girl over whom a shocked young suiter stood frozen in horror and wonder.

--to be continued!

The Return of the King and the Downfall of BirSauron (Chapter 16):

Hairy Druid, newly freed from imprisonment, says, "Hello chaps", and turning to the hobbit-high Howard he quips, "and chips". Next Lord Lenoden catches Hairy's eye, "Hello unc. You know my cell was so small, that the rats were hunchbacked." Finally Hairy's attention turns to Wormtongue, "Ah, Grega, some of your cousins send their regards. It is funny, how one makes the strangest acquaintances while looking under rocks."

We'll never know what Hairy's next line would have been. Mercifully fate has chosen this moment for the guards, who were sent to search Grega Wormtongue's chambers, to rush into the great hall. They're carrying what

they seem to regard as a prize, a large black banner which bears the picture of a white hand and the motto, "Don't knock the Rock." One of the guards reports, "Lord Lenoden, we found this rolled up and cleverly hidden."

Lenoden jumps up out of his throne and shouts, "So Arn was right! Grega, you've been proven a traitor. As reward for your past disservice to your country, I am assigning you to be Hairy's adjutant and constant companion."

Howard cries out, "Lord Lenoden, even Grega has not earned such a fate. Have mercy! Instead, might you not banish him from your kingdom and give him three days to reach the border (100 miles distant) on foot, on pain of death."

Lenoden sees the rare wisdom in Howard's words, "So be it! Grega, you may even seek out your true master, Sarumora, if he'll have you. But be out of my fair land of Rohan by three days hence, if you value your life."

Hairy butts in with, "Good riddance, to bad rubbish."

Lenoden continues, "Hairy, I've not forgotten you. Leave immediately to take up command of our defense forces on the Far marches!" --to be continued!

1975AF, Autumn & Winter 1902

QUIET ALONG ALL THE FRONTS IN EUROPE? HMM!

Error: Germany lost a unit and is thus one unit short which allows him to build 1.

Autumn 1902: Germany R F Den-Bal

Winter 1902:

AUSTRIA(Johnson): B F Tri

ENGLAND(Carson): SP

FRANCE(Carlton): B F Bre

GERMANY(Eddy): B F Kie

ITALY(Bettencourt): SP

RUSSIA(Goldston): SP

TURKEY(Morphy): SP

SPRING 1903 Orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T

Winter 1902 Positions:

Austria: A Gre, F Alb, A Ser, F Tri (4);

England: F Den, F Ska, A Nwy, F Nwg (4);

France: A Lon, F Eng, A Pic, F Mid, A Gas,

F Bre (6); Germany: A Hol, A Ruh, F Bal,

F Kie (4); Italy: A Ven, A Apu, F Eas, F

Ion (4); Russia: F Arm, A Sev, A Rum, A Vie,

F Swe, F StP(nc), A Liv (7); Turkey: A Bul,

A Con, F Aeg, F Bla (4).

1975CS, Fall 1901

STRANGE WAR THIS!

AUSTRIA(Leppert): A Ser S F Alb-Gre, F Alb-Gre, A Tri-Tyr
 ENGLAND(Strittmatter): F Nth-Nwy, F Lon-Eng, A Yor H/u/
 FRANCE(Stephens): A Spa-Por, A Gas-Spa, F Bre-Mid
 GERMANY(McDonald): F Den H, A Ruh-Bel, A Kie-Hol
 ITALY(Leahy): A Ven H, A Apu-Tun, F Ion C A Apu-Tun
 RUSSIA(Albano): F Bot-Swe, A Gal-Rum, A Ukr-Sev, F Sev-Bla
 TURKEY(Dalmon): A Bul-Gre, F Ank-Con, F Arm-Ank

WINTER 1901 Orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Fall 1901 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: Hom, Ser, Gre (5) B2
 England: Hom, Nwy (4) B1
 France: Hom, Spa, Por (5) B2
 Germany: Hom, Den, Hol, Bel (6) B3
 Italy: Hom, Tun (4) B1
 Russia: Hom, Rum, Swe (6) B2
 Turkey: Hom, Bul (5) B1

Press--

Viva La France!: "Dolts, dunderheads, idiots!" Shouted the apoplectic premier.

"What concerns Monsieur le premier?" interjected the foreign minister suavely.

"A terrible mistake has been made, a grievous injury has been dealt our national honour, an act of idiocy and lunacy has been committed against the French people and the French nation!" ranted the premier.

"Could Monsieur le premier be a bit more specific?" queried the foreign minister.

"Merd! Don't those fools, those cretins, those morons, those.....those geographical buffoons know that it is the French Channel not the English Channel? Look at these maps-- they all say English, not French Channel!"

"Merd!" replied the foreign minister tartly.

French vocabulary lesson (coutesy of la belle France) in response to the failure of the occupation of the English Channel: Quelle Dommage!

Nova Roma: Flabibus Maximus has announced that the previously sighted Cossacks were really Huns.

See you at Chicago's DipCon (CITEX 75)!!

1973CZec, Autumn & Winter 1726

WILL EASTERN ALLIANCE STICK TOGETHER?

Note: David Kadlecck, 1447 Sierra Creek Way, San Jose, CA 95132.

Autumn 1726: Eng R F Var-Lap (A legal retreat overlooked in listing last issue); Ottos: R F Mid-Bis

Winter 1726:

AUSTRIA(Drews): D A Hol, A Net
 ENGLAND(Kadlecck): SP (lost 2 and was 1 short, so doesn't have to remove)
 FRANCE(Monahan): SP
 OTTOMAN EMPIRE(Mahler): B F Con
 POLAND(Rocamora): B A Pos, A Kra, A War, F Lit
 SPAIN(Swies): SP

SPRING 1727 orders due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Winter 1726 Positions:

Austria: A Tyr, A Rhi, A Bav, A Sax, A Han; England: A Chr, F Hel, F Lon, F Iri, F NAT, F Lap; France: A Ara, A Rhe, A Ndy, A Mil, F Lyo, A Bri; Ottomans: F Cen, F Ion, F Nap, F Wes, F STy, F Sar, A Kie, A Vie, A Pap, A Ven, F Bis, A Wal, A Bud, F Con; Poland: A Var, A Sto, F Got, F Bot, F Den, A Pom, A Bra, A Sil, A Boh, A Mos, A Pos, A Kra, A War, F Lit; Spain: F Mid, F Por, A Ast, F Sev, F Gra.

1973AYec, Spring 1728 POSTPONED

Standby for Ottoman Empire: David Kadlecck, 1447 Sierra Creek Way, San Diego, CA 95132

Error: It has been brought to my attention by the obedient and observant English that Austria had a vie and thus wasn't entitled to a build last winter. So, it was also noticed that I left out A Gal in W'27 listing. To wit, a new listing for Austria is needed. A Kra, A Pos, A Bra, A Han, A Bud, A Ven, A Mor, A Gal, A Vie, A Mil (10). Since the Austrian player was not able to recognize these errors involving his own forces and since the other players' moves may be dependent on the exact Austrian positions, I have to postpone this deadline. Sorry!

SPRING 1728 Orders postponed to Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Did you hear about the Smogarian who won a Gold metal in the Olympics? He took it home and had it bronzed....

1974ND1, Spring 1019

IRELAND SEEKS REVENGE FOR 1973Dd1? HMMMM!!!

Standby for England is Richard Swies, 4829
S. Leamington Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

Spring 1019:

CONNACHT(Kadlecek): A Oma S Lei A Arm/r/
(Spe, Ern, Tyr, OTB)

ENGLAND(Osmandon): A Mon, A Str, A Che,
F NSG/r/(SIS, CaB, Dyf, Car, OTB), F Bri,
A Pow, F Brk, A Sta all hold. NMR.

LEINSTER(C.D.): A Arm, F DrB H

MUNSTER(Hyatt): F Sli-SlB, A Ros-Bre, F Tra-
TrB, F Lim-GaB, A Tar-Uri, A Kil-Dub, A Wex-
Wic, A Oss-Wex, A Cas-Mea, F StG-NGC, F SGC
S F StG-NGC, F Cor S F SGC

ORKNEY(Sokolitsky): A Dal-Oma, A Don S A Dal-
Oma, F Isl S A Don, F Man H, A Sut H,
F Min S A Sut, A Kin H

SCOTLAND(Fanelli): F ChB-Iri, A Dun H,
A Alc H, A Lis H

SUMMER & FALL 1019 orders due Friday, August
1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Press--

TARA: The Scot is a bit sarcastic, but nice.
Perhaps we can meet in peace in Ulster.

LOTHIAN: The people of Scotland were black
today in mourning for the Queen of Ulster.
The Scottish King hung his head in sorrow
and said, "Gee, I didn't mean no harm....
maybe I shouldn't have sailed to Down..."

1973Ccz, October 1871

GERMANY CALLS FOUL PLAY ON ITALIAN STAB!!!

Concession vote is defeated but is asked for
again!

Oct. 1871:

CANADA(Monahan): A Ber disembarks Cha, F
Ber S A Ber-Cha, A Mon-Ont, A Tor S A
Ohi, A Phi S A Myd, F Hal-Wat, A Spa-Gas,
F Mid-Bis, F Edi S Fra F Eng-Nth, F
Heb S A/F Nwg, A Nwg disembarks Nwy,
F Can S Fra F SAT/otm/

C.S.A. (C.D.): A Lou, A Cha H/a/

FRANCE(Greenwell): F Bar S Eng A Nwg-Nwy/imp/
F Eng-Nth, F Azo-Mid, F Jac-Mag, F Por-
Spa(sc), F SAT-Can

GERMANY(Ricci): F Kie-Hol, A Bur S A Bre-
Gas, F Pic-Eng, A Bre-Gas, A Yor-Kie,
F Nth C A Yor-Hel/imp/r/(Hel, Ska, Lon,
OTB), F Den-Nth, A Fin-Cou, A Pol-Aus,
F Bot C A Fin-Cou, F Nwy H/r/(Swe, Ska,
Fin, OTB)

ITALY(Davis): A Ven-Tyr, A Rom-Ven, A Mar-
Swi/imp--Swi is impassable/, F Lyo-Mar,
F Box-Pan, F Bah-Gul, F His-Sat, F Wes-
Tyn, F Alg-Wes, F Mor H
U.S.A.(Burden): A Chi-Ohi, A Ken-Myd, A Ric
S A Ken-Myd

NOVEMBER 1871 Orders and votes on two
proposals: 1. Joint Canadian-Italian
concession and, 2. Concession to Canada all
due Friday, August 1, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

Press--

Germany: Everyone following this game note
that Italy, by building 2 armies has broken
the alliance with me (Germany). In order
to protect my alliance integrity in future
games, I will suicide against Italy, who
broke the alliance, and give my supply
centers to Canada, allowing him to win in
about 2 game years. ((GM--the rest has been
cut off since it was a plan of action which
should be restricted to diplomacy direct
with the players--this is a press column!))

1971Dbu, Summer & Fall 1914

ITALY AND GERMANY BOTH SUFFER MINOR SETBACKS
AS AUSTRIA JOINS THE EASTERN ALLIES! HEY!

Standby for Italy: Anyone who has the Dbu
map!

Summer 1914: Aus R A Tri-Ser, F Aeg-Smy
Fall 1914:

AUSTRIA(Tilson): F Smy-Con, A Ser-Rum, A
Bud S A Clu, A Clu S A Ser-Rum, A Bul
S F Smy-Con, A Arm-Ank, A Syr-Jor, A
Ira-Tur, A Sev-Ira

CHINA(Swies): F SPA OBB-Mid, F ECh-SPA,
F Sch S Jap F Cel, F Sia S Jap F Bor-
Mal, A Pek-Kan, A Kan-Tib, A Tib-Cal,
A Del-Afg, A Sik-Bma, A Thi S A Joh,
A Sha H, A Skg S Aus A Ira-Tur

GERMANY(Proujansky): F Cly-Lvp, F Nth-Nwg,
A Nwy-StP, F Eng C A Pic-Lon, F Bal C
A Pos-Liv, A Pic-Lon, A Bur H, A Tyr
S A Vie, A Vie S Ita A Ven-Tri/nso/
A Gal-Ukr, A Ukr-Mos, A Pos-Liv, A Sil-
Gal, A Oms S A Tur, A Tur S A Afg-Ira/a/,
A Afg-Ira, A Bre H

ITALY(Osmandon): NMR. F Sat, A Egy, A
Spa, A Tun, A Ven, A Tri, F Ara, F Mad,
F Jav, F Wes, F Aeg, F Eas, A Apu,
F Ion, A Mog all hold, F Mid/r/, F Mal
/r/, and A Con/a/

JAPAN(Drews): F Bor-Mal, F Cel S F Bor-Mal,
F SPA-SPA OBB, F NPA OBB S Chi F SPA OBB-
Mid, F SJa-NPa, A Sib S Aus A Ira-Tur,
A OMo S A Sib, A IMo S Chi A Skg.

AUTUMN & WINTER 1914 Orders plus vote for a 5-way Draw all due Friday, August 1, 1975, E.D.S.T, at noon.

Fall 1914 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: Bud, Clu, Ser, Bul, Gre, Rum, Sev, Ira, Bag, Con, Tri (10) SP (No room to build)
 China: Hom, Sai, Bma, Tha, Cal, Vtn, Phi, Del, For, Tok, Joh, Skg (14) B2 (was 2 short)
 Engoland: ~~Lph~~, ~~Lfp~~, Ire (1) GM D F NAT, leaving F Ire)
 Germany: Hom, Bel, Den, Hol, Par, Swe, Bre, Edi, Mos, StP, War, Nwy, Oms, Vna, Lvp, Lon (19) B3, was 1 short.
 Italy: Hom, Eth, Pen, Egy, Tun, Yem, Smy, Ank, Mor, Mar, Spa, Cey, Mad, Jav, ~~Lph~~, Tri, (18) B1, lost 1
 Japan: Kyo, Osa, Kor, Kar, Vla, OMo, Bor, Man (8) SP

ZINE REVIEW, CONTINUED

10/\$2.00. Mimeo. Monthly.

TURNABOUT #12. Peter Berggren, Davistown Schoolhouse Rd., Orford, NH 03777. Offset. Sub is 12/\$3.50.

MIXUMAXU GAZETTE, #35. Robert Lipton, 556 Green Place, Woodmere, NY 11598. Sub is 5/\$1 Mimeo. (Note: Temporary summer address for this vamp is in Woodmere, but from the looks of the address....Green place, Woodmere sounds like another cemetery.....)

ATLANTIS, #80. Christopher Schleicher, Wheeling, IL 60090. Sub is 10/20 10¢ stamps. Mimeo.

BOAST, #65. Herb Barents, 1142 S. 96th Ave., Zeeland, MI 49464. Sub is \$2.75/year (17 issues). Ditto. Sells practically all the worth-while wargames by mail at low prices--write for info!

ARRAKIS, #47. David Head, Box 1231, Huntsville, Ont. POA 1K0, Canada. Sub is 1¢/page + postage. Mimeo. Openings in reg. dip--GF is \$2 + sub.

LIAISONS DANGEREUSES, #58. Len Lakofka (alias Lenny da Lizzard), 644 West Briar Place (alias West Briar Patch), Chicago, IL 60657. Ditto. Sub is 10/\$2.00 Has openings for novices only at GF of \$6 or \$8 airmail (GF includes sub). There is a debate going on whether Lenny is actually a lizard or a rabbit, but if you go by his address.....

COMMAND POST, #21. John Mirassou, Rt. 2, Box 623AC, Morgan Hill, CA 95037 (must be a fancy vamp hotel--probably makes his money in vamp movies?). Sub is 6/\$1.10. GF is \$1

+ sub. Openings in reg. dip. Ditto.

CAIR PARAVEL, #1 Gil Neiger, 300 W. 108th St., NY, NY 10025. Mimeo. Sub 8/\$2.00.

This is one-half of the old POUCH, the other half to be Fall Ovia by Ray Heuer.

A.D.A.G. #99. Hal Naus, 1011 Barrett Ave., Chula Vista, CA 92011. Ditto. Has openings for both newcomers and regular players. No GF given, nor can I find a sub rate. One of the really old-timers of the hobby (that's "been around awhile, not necessarily being old"). Ditto.

CIMMERIA, #22. Steve Nozik, 57 Chartwell Ct., Rochester, NY 14618. Ditto. Sub is 10/\$2. Ditto.

SPECULUM, #19. Dave Kadlecsek, 1447 Sierra Creek Way, San Jose, CA 95132. Sub is 10/\$2. Openings in anything you want! GF up to \$3 + refundable deposit of \$1 + sub. He reserves right to run what you want. Has had openings in: Gigaton Bomb Variant (GF \$2), Third Age (GF \$1.50), Fish's Delight (GF \$0) and Global Variant (GF of \$1.50). Ditto.

Well, that's all I have on hand that isn't Overseas or in a foreign language. That's too many to do in a regular issue!!

JOKES & QUOTES

"What would be a good way to raise revenue and still benefit the people?"

"Tax every political speech."

"Inflation hasn't ruined everything. A dime can still be used as a screwdriver."

"Death and taxes are inevitable."

--Haliburton

"The art of taxation consists in so plucking the goose as to obtain the largest amount of feathers with the least possible amount of hissing."

--J.B. Colbert

"A diplomat is one who thinks twice before saying nothing."

Pity poor old George Washington. He couldn't blame his troubles on the previous administration!"

"Today, with all this inflation going on, about all you can get for a dollar is a picture of George Washinton."

"He lived by the stab and died by the stab."

--attributed to Birsan

NEWS

OF THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY

Well, the news are a bit fragmentary in my head this time around, but let's get on with it piecemeal, and perhaps we'll cover a good bit of ground....

1. Lew Pulsipher, 423 N. Main St., Bellevue, MI 49021, has finished a playtest version of WAR OF THE RING (LOTR trilogy dip variant). It is available to anyone for the price of 25¢ third class or 35¢ first class. Map is 5 pages and the rules are 5 pages. There is also a poll attached which you can answer and return with your opinions. This is the first time that I have heard of this "feedback" technique being used to work on a dip variant, but then it should be a great aid for Lew when he comes out with his "official" and final version.

Comments are being printed here and there and a few letters to me indicate that there is at least a little support for an unofficial organization of publishers to guarantee free flow of dippy materials. I would suspect that what's holding publishers back is that everyone is getting a bit sick over all these dippy organizations and they certainly don't want another one! Well, I am encouraged enough with this small amount of support to widen the base purpose to a general organization of publishers/gms! But, I'll start this when I have time to do it and not before. Also, I will run it with a heavy, but fair, hand since I know people don't want to have to argue about how to vote or decide the important issues. It would remain an informal group (not as an organization as such) of publishers/gms who are invited by myself to join me in my casual effort to link bonds and to improve our "understandings", etc. More on this when I feel that I can handle it!

Polls, I feel, can be an IMPORTANT technique to evaluate opinions and trends in our hobby--provided it is done right. I hope to begin my own series of mini-polls on various questions with this issue (look for it), but mostly dealing with what I want to find out and with my own publications as a "feed-back" type of poll. Lew Pulsipher with his North American Diplomacy Players' Poll has achieved a lot of results and it is just a matter of reading it all through since it is massive in contents. I am, hopefully, going to finish the 1st poll with this issue and begin covering the 2nd issue by issue with the next. It is simply too long to cover in one issue!

Ever hear of SMOF? I didn't until Lew sent me a carbon copy announcement made in behalf of SMOF members. I can't be sure it is a joke or not, but I'll print it here as news of a sort....

SMOF Now Accepting Members

The Secret Masters of Fandom (SMOF, pronounced smoff) are searching for energetic new blood to help in the arduous task of organizing all worthy projects which go on in Dippydom without seeming to. SMOF is forced to adopt contemporary methods to keep up with the growth of hobby activity--hence this announcement. SMOF is the oldest club in DIPLOMACY Fandom. We operate in the most democratic manner. Each candidate can become a member only by 2/3 vote of the present SMOFs. Moreover, only the Chief Secret Master of Fandom knows who the other SMOFs are, in order to prevent undue or unfair influence by one member on another in votes. There is a written Constitution which the Chief Secret Master of Fandom interprets. Among other things, this means that only the Chief Secret Master of Fandom or his designate decides which candidates are placed before the SMOFs for a membership vote. Since money should not be a criterion of ability or usefulness, SMOF charges no membership fee. SMOFs are expected to work hard, however. There is much going on in Fandom, and since the Secret Masters ultimately control virtually all worthwhile activities there is much we must do. Have you ever considered how difficult it is to influence someone without seeming to? No everyone is an easy mark or potential puppet, you know. SMOFs must be masters at dissembling as well as jacks of all trades. Only the very best in the hobby can claim that they are among the Secret Masters of Fandom (though, of course, as its first rule, SMOF requires that members never reveal such membership to anyone, or they'll never win another DIPLOMACY postal game again (and not many PTF games, either)).

To apply for membership write or mail drop to Lew Pulsipher, 423 N. Main St., Bellevue, MI 49021; he will forward your message. Include a statement of why you think you can be a Secret Master. If you do not wish to have the go-between know who you are (we recommend it), enclose your message in an envelope with "SMOF" written on the front."

Pulsipher comments that he is not a member and never heard of it before. Says all he knows is a general delivery address with a phony name....sounds like a joke to me!

(cont. on page 11)

HOBBY NEWS, CONT.

By the way, if I would say so without offending anyone, the idea of SMOFs sounds like something from the immortal Fangmaster!

Quite a few conventions to be listed here. First of all, there's CITEK 75 which you can learn all you need from the enclosed flyer and hotel reservation card. I'm going to Chicago and taking along two dippynuts (Lee Kendter and Bill McDonough) who I got to go with a couple of bribes such as fixed wins.....seriously, we are going and I hope to see many of those who were there last year as well as all the new faces able to make it to Chicago. This will be my, wheeze, 4th trek to Chicago!

ORIGINS is a wargaming convention being organized by Avalon Hill. I'm trying to make it to this affair though I doubt if I'll stay for more than a day. For more info, write to Avalon Hill or read their General! What I'd like to do is play some games of Blue & Quad....

What is this world coming to? The most staid hobby there is in this world is most likely the game of chess, right? Maybe it is too staid for organizers of tournaments are now employing advertisements pasted on nude girls (we all know young, numble girls don't play chess!). The picture advertised \$1,500 cash prizes and 40 trophies--it also advertised a young girl....for more info write to: Cherry Hill Chess Club, 2405 Church Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. You won't be in time to enter the tournament, but maybe you can learn something about their ads! (Maybe we ought to spruce up our own dippy ads?)

A few letters are in for printing and they'll be under the Letter Column heading... but before I go from here, there's to be a SUMMER CON at MIT in Cambridge, MA, on Aug. 9 & 10. For more info and flyer write to: George Phillies, 897 Main St., #4, Cambridge, MA 02139.

Now, the final paragraph. Why is this issue late and why are there so many extra games? Well, knowing that I wanted to change the deadlines to avoid ORIGINS AND DIPCON dates, I had to come out a week later, and since it was going to be a big issue, I decided I could use the extra week rather than the players. Also, Lost Horizons is now ended and may only exist as a supplement to Impassable if the number of games prove to take up too much space. That's why!

End of news (gotta a lot of other stuff to type....)

Peace.

LETTERS

From Doug Beyerlein:

"The idea of a federated IDA for international business sounds like a good idea. I think that I prefer your plan of one country--one representative for the international council over Pulsipher's plan of proportional hobby size. The fewer people on the council the better in terms of getting work done and agreements reached. The question is, though, what is the minimum size per country for representation. Brian Bailey (who, I believe, is still a member of IDA) sits all alone in New Guinea; should he represent himself? This would all have to be worked out in advance, but I believe the idea that you have is a sound one.

On the subject of Larry Peery, I thought that I might tell what I know. I had the opportunity to visit with him for about four hours last October when I was down in San Diego. From what he said I have the impression that he is out of the hobby for good. His series on country strategy was reviewed as being rather poor by most people in the know and this undoubtedly discouraged him from continuing past what he had done on Austria and England. However, more importantly, he is really into building up his Institute of Diplomatic Studies into a real profit-making enterprise. He is apparently spending most of his time and money on this pursuit. Also, I believe that he has returned to graduate school and is getting some type of funding there for all of his Rand-type studies. His dreams of what all of this will lead to one day are probably far greater than what he will ever eventually accomplish, but then with Larry one never knows.

As for getting your money back for the country strategy series, I honestly don't think that you ever will. I also sent in my ten bucks (or whatever the amount was), but don't expect to see it back. Right now I don't think that Larry has the money to repay all of the dissatisfied customers, nor unfortunately do I think that he is interested in doing so. But give it a good try, and include my name with the others." ((The number of "drop-outs" with a log of debts is growing all the time. I no longer portend to know who will be with us the next year in this hobby! Sad, but true.))

From Jim Cooper:

(see next page)

"....Also, recently we had a radio show interview of Michelle Nicholls, Jimmy Doohan, Majel Roddenberry and DeForest Kelly. They said Gene Roddenberry had been working on the movie (movie's existence confirmed) and that: filming would start August, 1975, come out "1st of '76". The movie would portray all the major characters something like 10 years since the beginning of the series (within the ST world) and that there'd be some emergency or something to call everyone back together again. Even the Enterprise would be 10 years older--but in better designs mostly! Trouble would arise in dealing with the character of Chekhov; he was the young (22) and funny guy--can't be the same 10 years later! Also, in another radio show, it mentioned that Roddenberry is trying to get into sf--or the other way around. He gets up early and sits and reads Science Fiction for something like 3 hours. Then later on he tries writing it. Sounds more and more like a very interesting guy...."

((In case you're wondering what he was talking about, it was about STAR TREK. I have always been a fan of that show. Will do my best to see the movie when it comes out!))

From Richard Kovalcik:

"Regarding the plug you gave Erehwon in Impassable #52. You say "Not recommended for children under the age of 21." I think that's crazy. Almost all teenagers know about those things and have better reactions to them than old people. Therefore, I think "Not recommended for people over 50" would be more correct. I'm 16."

((Whew! Man, you at least left me in the under-50 crowd. Well, I do dig your theme, man, but you see, man, you know that this hobby is sort of youngish and since I do happen to like guy even though he's gay, I was making a "pun" with it. The inclusion of those under 21 would, I suspect, include about 90% of the hobby. But, I am older than you, that's for sure since I'm the ancient age of 28 (the only thing that matters is how old you think....), you know, I do have a little bit of trouble remembering how much I knew when I was your sweet 16 age! I can tell you know, you know man, that things haven't changed since Alexander the Great conquered the world at the age of 16 (except you need a degree or 10 years of background experience in technological warfare) except that we live in a more complicated. Sorry to have offend any young, whippersnappers out there! Hee, hee! Croak! Cough, cough.....))

From Lew Pulsipher:

"I don't understand your concern about copyrighting. Copyrighting has a long history in hobby zines. TDA copyrighted the last issue of WAZIR in June 1972, but there have been many non-TDA copyrights since then and there were probably some before. Blood and Iron, Yggdrasill Chronicle, the IDA Handbooks, and even Arena (Edi Birsan's zine) have been copyrighted at one time or another. Even when no copyright is involved, the tradition since I've been active in the hobby (and I don't date back into the 60's) was for people to ask permission before reprinting articles. Are you saying, John, that you want people to be able to reprint without asking for permission? Or that if someone asks permission and is refused, they ought to reprint anyway? If you're not saying either of these things, then you haven't a thing to worry about copyrighting. If you ARE saying one of these things, then you're advocating something that would cause a great deal of hard feeling and which would help keep the hobby on the adolescent level. I recognize that there are times when reprinting a sentence or two, in order to be fair to someone you are criticizing, may be desirable; but paraphrasing can get around this difficulty.

I worry much more about possible indiscriminate reprinting than about any restrictions that might result from a spate of copyrighting.

Changing the subject a bit, whatever happened to the "New Blood" lists we used to see in zines? Has it become a general policy to sit on such addresses so that the "other side" won't get to them?

The "new" flyer seems to have just come out. I say "new" because the announcement from GRI went out last year before DipCon, and Walt Buchanan and John Moot checked the list at the Con. I don't know what the hold up was, but I heard that other people had given GRI some advice, and from one source I heard that there was no flyer at all in the game, new or old. But I've recently received the first inquiry about BI mentioning the flyer, so it seems to have come out while everyone was talking...."

((What I am for is to have free exchange of dippy material without restrictions. If I, John Boyer, print something in Impassable, those who read it can reprint it without asking me since I have not put any restrictions on it. The only thing I ask is for a copy of the reprint and source being given. Now, as for copyrighting, I am

(cont. on next page)

LETTERS, CONTINUED

against the idea of turning our tradition into a legalized, formal format. I feel that considering the informal nature of our hobby and the fact nobody makes money, that to go and actually copyright your material is showing your adolescent tendencies! As a rule, I don't reprint material as I usually get enough from yourself or anyone else to provide sufficient material to fill these pages. Others like to reprint stuff, mostly to criticize or to downgrade. There are those will continue to abuse the hobby's tradition (polite protection of your authorship) and it won't matter what you do--they will still abuse the practice. So, some others get their material copyrighted. Fine, this amounts to no difference, technically, from the "hobby's tradition", but it provides for a legal basis to prosecute. What is going to happen when these people find these abusers still abusing their material despite it being copyrighted? The results will be interesting, to say the best. The worst to happen is that the hobby turns professional that much quicker. Everyone taking on a more formal, business-like approach to the hobby. Forms to fill out in your intentions of paying gamefees. Promises signed to finish the game, or be penalized by a heavy fine. Really, I'm just satirizing the possible results, but we would no longer be on a "fiendishly friendly" basis. The hobby would no longer be strictly that! This is why I proposed a group willing to exchange materials freely without having to resort to asking for permission and to avoid getting into copyrighting of material. I ask for permission from those who I have not made prior arrangements. This "group" would merely list those who agree to this arrangement. That is all. The arrangement is to continue the hobby's tradition and to not to copyright your material.

I get too many inquiries via the GRI flyer to publish the list in Impassable (I never really made that a practice). What I do is provide my own zine as a sample, give my personal advice and recommend other gamezines with openings. I also refer them to Joel Klein of IDA's Novice Packet Committee. He and the others including Drews and Correll do an excellently-done zine for these newcomers.

By the way, Edi Birsan, alias President Birsauron of IDA, has proposed recently in setting up a group of people with one box number to handle all the inquiries. They

would print listings of newcomers and mail them out to publishers who need them. Also, they would handle the questions asked and to funnel all the inquiries into one post office address. This would do away with the problems of the current GRI flyer system when publishers on that list keep moving around and changing addresses, or drop out of the hobby. The single address would be maintained by an organization (IDA) and members operating through it would vary as the personnel change, but it would keep the same address. Of course, my opinion is that this might work if we can find a geographical location which always will have dippy people around to get the mail out of that address!))

That covers the letters for this issue. There are a few articles to be printed and so without further delay, let's get to them!

FLIP SIDE OF THE COIN

by Steve McLendon

I must admit I was pretty disgusted with the way things were going on here--Watergate, inflation, energy shortages, etc. I almost hated to read the paper or listen to the 6:00 news. I was looking forward to my trip to Moscow. I had never heard of any problems like that in the Soviet Union and I could not help but feel that they had it. things under control.

After about 17 hours of flying, we landed at the airport and I could tell right away that I was in Russia. Soviet troops were everywhere. At a civilian airport, Soviet troops were everywhere. Our Soviet hosts by-passed us around customs so we did not have to go through that ordeal. I did not see one smile on the face of any Soviet soldier. They were strictly business, and one had better not forget it.

During the next six weeks I tried to learn as much as I could about life in the Soviet Union. I will try to relay to you, with as much objectivity as I can, what I learned in those six weeks.

Moscow is a very clean city (not modern, but clean). You don't find 10 or 15 billboards to a block, which was refreshing. There are even cigarette urns every 100 feet or so, so you don't throw your butts in the street.

The public transportation in Moscow is exceptional. You can take a subway (which is extremely clean and beautiful), a trolley, or even a taxi. Fares are cheap, too. You

(cont. next page)

FLIP SIDE, CONTINUED

can ride the subway all over the city for about 10 cents.

Restaurants and street-side snack bars are everywhere. You never have to search long for a place to eat. The only shortcoming I found is the service. It is really crummy. A waiter, since everything is owned by the state, gets paid the same whether he turns a table over 5 times in one night or once. They don't have to hustle to satisfy the customers.

There is no such thing as checking accounts in Moscow. Everything is cash. But there are savings accounts. Interest rate on savings is 2%. Interest rate on loans is 3%.

Housing is a serious problem. I never saw so many apartment buildings, tremendously huge apartment buildings, under construction. Suppose you are a young man, a Soviet citizen, and you are ready to move out on your own, away from the family. Well, you have to get on a waiting list--about 2 years. When your name comes up the state assigns you an apartment, without regard to your work location. One consolation here is that your rent on the apartment is only about 6 rubles per month (1 ruble=\$1.35). But each Soviet citizen is allowed only 90 square feet to live in. So if you are married with 2 children the state assigns you a 360 square feet apartment. (And I thought my 700 square feet apartment was too small for me!)

Many of us have moved from one part of the country to another; Philadelphia to Chicago, etc. No problem here. But for a Russian to move from one part of Russia to another he must obtain a visa (yes, just like a foreigner only it is a permanent visa). But there is so much red tape in getting this visa most Russians stay put.

If a Russian wants to buy a car, again he has to get on a waiting list--3 to 4 years. When your name comes up it will cost you between 8,000 and 10,000 rubles. But if a foreigner wants to buy a car, and pays in foreign currency, (dollars, pounds, etc.) he can get that car for 1/3 that price--and immediately.

There are stores and bars in Moscow that accept only foreign currency, no rubles. The price for an item in these stores is 1/2 the price that item sells for in a Russian store. Usually the quality of items in these stores is much higher than items in Russian stores. When I say "Russian store" I mean those that the average Russian has

to shop in, because it is against the law for Soviet Citizens to have foreign currency.

Consider the last two paragraphs. How would you like to live in a country where your government gave a higher priority and better conditions to foreigners than you were allowed?

Everyone works in Russia. Everyone pulls his own weight (you can be arrested and thrown in a labor camp if you are out of work more than 30 days). It is commonplace to see women driving steamrollers or an 80-year old woman shovelling snow off the streets in the dead of winter.

In Russia there are no drive-in groceries, hamburger stands, etc. that we are used to. Public radio and TV is limited. So many things that we Americans take for granted is denied the average Russian. It would take too much space to list them all.

Throughout the Soviet Union there is a shadow over the land--the shadow of the KGB, the Soviet secret police. Everywhere I went in Moscow I felt this shadow. So does every Russian in the Soviet Union. The Soviet Politburo rules the people through the KGB. There is only one way a very small group of people can rule 200 million people--fear and terror. It is this fact about life in the Soviet Union which stands out more than any other. The Russian people have been made robots and servants of the state, lacking incentive and stripped of spirit.

Yet the Russian people themselves are, in general, very friendly. I made many friends in Russia and cherish them all. If you stop a Russian in the street, simply to make conversation, chances are he will oblige you (if you can speak Russian). If you tried that in this country chances are you'll get a quick brush-off. The Russians are real people. They laugh, cry, and express emotions just like anyone else. I left Moscow with a fondness for them I had no thought would ever develop.

In my dealings with the Russians I have also visited Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, and England. Six countries altogether. In not one did I see a standard of living as good as ours. In not one did I see lower prices.

Now, I am not saying that we should pat ourselves on the back and forget our troubles because we are better off than anyone else. But I think Americans do tend to downgrade their own country a little too much. Over there, Americans are treated with more respect than any other foreigners (especially in Russia, I was surprised to

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discover). I didn't really appreciate the fact that I was an American; I took it for granted--until I saw the flip side of the coin.

((My thanks to Steve for a very informative article based upon his trip to Moscow. I got a nice postcard from Steve while he was over there and I still have the card. Steve, is that a picture of the Kremlin you sent me? I can't read the Russian and there isn't any English on it! Thanks again for a good article, Steve.))

TENTATIVE PLAN

FOR CHOOSING A DIPCON SITE

by Lew Pulsipher

This doesn't deserve to be called an article, but I wanted a title so that it would stand out a bit. Unlike my normal practice for articles, this is the first and only draft of this "article" that I'll write, so bear with me.

The IDA, as the only mass-membership DIPLOMACY organization, is considering the possibility of taking part in some way in the selection of the DipCon site. (For an account of the selection process--when there was any--for previous DipCons see Rod Walker's article in the Mar-Apr Diplomacy Review) While IDA has no real authority over the DipCon, neither does anyone else, and the IDA must in any case choose a site for its annual general meeting. But let's get on to a possible plan.

One possibility is to have a committee choose the site every year. This doesn't jive with hobby traditions (of democracy), but more important it leaves a very important and potentially explosive decision in the hands of a few people. Going to science fiction fandom for some precedents, we could have the previous convention choose the site for the next. In SF fandom this is done two years ahead of time. It is unreasonable to expect, however, that at present any group can prepare a case for its site, complete with preliminary plans and reservation of a location, a year before the convention is to take place. Perhaps this will occur in the future, but now we cannot expect any group to be fully prepared more than four or five months before the convention is to take place.

SF fandom suggests an alternative. The voting for the SF WorldCon site takes place by mail as well as in person. Only members

of the WorldCon may vote to choose the site of the future Con--e.g., the members of last year's con chose Kansas City as the site for the WorldCon in 1976. Persons who want to vote for the site (and also for the Hugo Awards) but who do not intend to attend the present WorldCon can take a supporting membership in the present WorldCon, which is a reduced price version of normal membership. (Groups bidding for the WorldCon begin selling pre-supporting memberships perhaps a year before voting takes place. After a site is selected, the group begins to sell supporting memberships, which may be turned into attending memberships, and attending memberships ((sic)). The price of both continues to rise as the time of DipCon approaches; rumors are that attending membership at the door in 1976 will cost \$50-100 in an effort to keep attendance within controllable limits (say, 4-5,000).

Perhaps we could try something of the same sort. One difference we have with SF fandom is that there is no mass-membership fan organization in SF fandom at all comparable to IDA. IDZ can probably be considered somewhat more trustworthy than any group holding a convention, especially one doing so for the first time. The existence of IDA is especially important because we cannot expect people to plan two years ahead, as explained above. I suggest that IDA ought to supervise a postal vote for the DipCon site, with voting being limited to persons who contribute, say, \$1 towards the costs for taking the vote, but the rest will be given to the convention to help defray expenses. The vote would be taken along about March so that there would be plenty of time for publicity and for people to make plans to go. The only practical period for holding a DipCon is from about June 15 to August 20, when everyone is out of school. (Months other than June-August were hardly mentioned in reply to the NADPS #2 question about the best month for the con).

IDA would have to establish a more or less permanent committee (though not necessarily with the same personnel every year) to take care of administration of this vote. The committee would also have another important function: to decide which sites would be put on the ballot. First, criteria would have to be established for what constitutes a well-organized and reliable group wishing to hold a convention (Convention Committee, as it's called in SF fandom). Each ConComm would be expected to advertise

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DIPCON SITE, CONTINUED

in hobby zines in order to convince voters that their site would be best, but it is possible to advertise without having anything concrete to back you up, and here the IDA committee would have to make a judgement. Also, if a regional rotation were established, the IDA Comm would have to decide whether to waive the rotation if, in their opinion, the available ConComms were of poor quality (or if none from the region in questions were bidding for the con). (SF fandom rotates the WorldCon among 3 North American regions and the rest of the world; usually by the time voting takes place all but 2-3 ConComms have dropped efforts to win the vote.)

The Council would appoint the members of the IDA Committee, probably one per region (if a rotation is used) plus a chairman (and in accordance with the IDA Constitution, the IDA President would also be a member). Final voting would be by Australian ballot both in order to obtain a majority opinion and also to avoid sabotage. In order to avoid problems about a "World" DipCon (a rather foolish idea at this stage anyway), the con would be known as the "North American DipCon".

What criteria would be involved in determining which ConComm was best? Every ConComm would be expected to have a clear organization with Chairman, Tournament Director, Publicity Director, Treasurer, Facilities Director, and perhaps other officers. The more prominent the members of the ConComm are, the better the chances that they will put on a good convention. One-man conventions, or conventions with "front" committees in which one man does all the work, cannot be expected to be as reliable as conventions in which many are involved. The ConComm would be expected to have a building or buildings reserved formally by the time of the voting, and proof of this might be required by the IDA supervising committee. Prior experience of the members of the ConComm would be a good selling point. In fact, in SF fandom most WorldCons are expansions of regional conventions which are held each year. Thus a group which has held an annual convention of noteworthy size for the past three years would be expected to be more reliable than a committee which was established exclusively for one convention. Financial backing would be another serious question, especially if a ConComm plans to hold the DipCon in a hotel, since this inevitably leads to heavy losses with the

present levels of attendance at DipCons. Probably the best place financially for a DipCon where all the participants are staying in the same place would be at a University. This year conventions are being held at Universities, using University dorms for housing at very low rates (\$4 a night in one case), at Detroit, Cincinnati, and Baltimore, and probably at other locations as well.

It would not be difficult to include the Calhaver Awards preliminary voting (if there is any hobby-wide voting at all) in the same operation with the site selection. The same "contribution" of \$1 or so would cover both. The advantage of the contribution, besides providing money for administrative purposes and to defray costs of the con, is that only serious people would participate.

If IDA chooses to establish a DipCon Site Committee, I will probably be chairman, I hope that anyone who is interested in this problem will write to me or write John for publication in Impassable. (Lew Pulsipher, 423 N. Main St., Bellevue, MI 49021).

((After that marathon typing I'm too pooped to comments, but I agree with what Lew has said. Good idea!))

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

--anonymously authored

Chapter Eight:

Once again, Torgen found himself on a course away from Earth. This time, though, he had no notion whatever of his direction, or even speed. The viewing and astrogation ports were still stopped up--not a beam of light penetrated them. Torgen was not interested in this particular phenomenon, however. He sat once again at the control panel and considered what had happened. He didn't doubt anymore that he'd been stopped by a superior being of some sort--that much was obvious. Even if it hadn't stopped him and then flung him ahead, it really didn't seem to matter much. What did matter was their conversation. Taking the words of the "Landlord of the Third Gate"--obviously an allusion to his past--to be true, Torgen then considered the Gates. Number 2 was connected suspiciously with the word sex. But if that meant what he thought it meant, then the word couldn't have survived all the intermediate languages it had gone through to arrive at English, could it?

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SOLITARY, CONTINUED

Torgen didn't know much about anything that went outside of his trade, but he did have a distinct though peculiar talent for language that was always more trouble than he had ever thought worth it. He was familiar with the case of the word Neanderthal. Through some coincidence, the first remains to be found of the Neanderthal man had been found in a valley named after the man who owned it. This German had translated his name into Latin, to form the name, Neander. His original name had been Newman; and Neanderthal man gained a very appropriate name by a somewhat round-about route. Torgen considered the coincidence and its relevance. He had to admit the possibility of some awesome pattern that had been responsible--could have been responsible--for the words. But he admitted also that comprehension of such a pattern was, at the time, beyond him. He could still, however, consider the implication of the word for the Second Gate: Sex. Interesting. How would man have lived without the differences of a woman? He could only vaguely imagine; and that was only the second gate--how would he have lived even before he didn't have woman? Actually, Torgen could imagine quite a few things, but reminded himself that these were probably wrong--most of them, anyway. So what was the next step for Man after Woman? First could be Man himself, second; Woman, third--animals? Aside from the unacceptable implication that women existed solely for men, and animals, too, it seemed....But the first step had Man--what?--to himself. Communicate? Was that it? Know and think, and know and think that he knew and thought? This was a very intriguing matter, quite apart from the fact that he was right in the middle of it; almost uncomfortably so. Torgen began to doze off, still at the control panel. Arguments chased each other throughout his mind, stomping on logic and shattering old notions right and left, until Torgen found himself at the gate to himself. Just before passing off into sleep, he embraced the thought that none of the beings involved in the Gates were "above" or "below" others, but that each was struggling along his own path, and each step climbed on that ladder allowed communications with others. But it would be a one-sided communication--or were there?....It stopped there, for Torgen was now oblivious to all, save what was within him. He was asleep."

--to be continued!

((Obvious change of authors, heh?))

DIPPYWORLD

Chapter Eight: Plans Are Made....

Saramora thanked the short servant and sat himself in the chair by the oak-panelled door. He took in one long look of the room. It was high-ceilinged, about 15' by 10' and all the walls save one were crammed with books....old books at that, his nose told him as he sniffed the slightly moldy air. He could sense no danger lurking in the room--he did not expect to--and the fourth wall without the shelving held a window in the center which opened to the courtyard. Being night, all he could see were a few stars twinkling with their cold light. He turned deep into thought about far away places when he was broken from these thoughts.

"Well, Saramora," cried Walter of the Hold, the door creaking loudly in protest upon being opened, "Here you are and I see you as you are!" As Walt sat in the chair next to him, Saramora noticed a particularly old book with a particularly interesting title. Reaching out with his arm, he tried to take hold of the volume but found he could not touch it! He tried his immense strength, he tried an ancient trick, he tried an alternate oath, but all to no avail. He gave up and saw Walt's eyes slightly narrowing and his lips showing faint humor.

"Noticed a new spell, haven't you, Mike?" Walt drew this out with a long savoring pleasure, "My witch-wife picked that up in New York on her trip a few years ago, don't tell me you don't know the anecdote?"

"No, I don't, I think that it is more likely that your witch-wife Carol..." his sentence interrupted with the loud bump of the heavy book on the floor.

"You see, my Carol has some of her own spells which only witches of her circles are able to overturn. The book has released itself upon your mentioning of her name, for this she has provided for in the spell." Walt bent over to pick up the book and handed it to his friend, "The book should be of some interest to you, I should think."

Reading the title on the cracked leather-bound book, it was of the art of backstabbing by the old master, BirSauron. "Ah, yes, it would be of interest, but little would I learn, but more of his ways--one plays the game better when he knows his opponent!" Saramora was flipping through the pages, but stopped to ask of Walt, "Well, we have more serious matters to discuss, don't we?"

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"Is this room satisfactory to you?" asked the Master of the Hold.

"Yes, our meeting shall be quite secret and its discussions shall remain unknown to all..."

"Except to my witch-wife Carol--she knows everything that goes on in this hold, her hearth and home."

"Ah yes, well, she can be trusted, of course?"

"Of course! She has taken the vows of obediency and faithfulness--the rites are most powerful!" Walt thought to himself that these New Yorkers found it hard to trust anyone!

With this tacit understanding, the secret meeting was undertaken between the two great diplomats. After a long session lasting into the morning hours, they were visited by the witch-wife Carol. She had entered the room, without their knowing except that her husband was too used to her to remain ignorant of her presence for long.

"Yes, what is it, Carol?" Walt was a bit perturbed that she would interrupt their important talks.

"Gentlemen, it is 5 a.m. and the time has come for the rooster to bid and greet the morning sun. You both are in great need of food and sleep. I forbid further talk!" Her voice was demanding and served to prove her point to the two proud men.

"Yes, your wife is right, Walt," replied Saramora, "Time to get some sleep. I will not need to eat, my dear hostess, I will be up for your mid-day meal." He stood up, yawned and stretched. He then disappeared! The two Buchanans both were surprised much.

"Well, it seems your friend has learned a new trick I do not know of!"

"It has been a long night, I should worry he has worn himself too thin to be seen!"

Both then heard a laugh, faint in the library room, but still easily discernable as from a distance.

"Yes, your friend has paid me a compliment for my book spell!" mused the Witch.

The crowing of the rooster broke the stillness of the outdoors, the red skies turned blue with light, and a new day was born.

"Come, I'll fix you a meal," ordered Carol to her husband.

The two went to the great kitchen by the long hall. The wife was silently thinking, "How did he do that? This Saramora knows more than he should!" to be continued

This is going to be very brief (just long enough to fill this page) and typed at the spur of the moment (right now).

Lew has asked me to contribute an article on the future of the hobby. Well, my views on its future keeps changing as my mood changes. So, I am not really ever accurate, I should think. However, I want to editorialize, not on the future, but on present trends in the hobby.

First, the usual amount of disagreements which continues has been limited to a few individuals--mostly from California or New York. That these two states should dominate practically all that is controversial seems to indicate that their local climates must be a strong factor. So, my first solution is to bomb California and pollute New York to death. Thus, the hobby can have some peace.

Seriously, if this hobby is to have any sort of future that is better than what the present holds for us, people must grow up. The hobby must grow up too. It must take a longer look at the problems and find some solutions to them. That IDA is doing something of this sort is a good thing, but IDA is also suffering from the same problem which seems to pervade the whole hobby: immaturity. There is a lack of seriousness and an excess of an eagerness to argue a point--any point. Actually, this problem as such is not so unusual (they argue every point in the US Congress), but it is made worse by the considerable time-lag in communications. We thus cannot afford this luxury!

The solution is nowhere in sight, so is the hobby's future to be clouded forever? Not necessarily, but one must remember where the power--the influence lies in this hobby: publishers. The power of the media is very strong in the Western world. The press can start great things as well as bomb great things. So the publishers of our hobby must take more seriously their responsibilities. Sure, they can continue to have fun, but when it comes to communications--with the printing of ideas and opinions--they must take greater care in what they say and how they say it. To me, the individuals who have not learned to control their ideas are slowing down progress of the whole hobby. Some say we should begin to ignore them, others continue to play their disputes in big print.

Progress are made by a few, but they cannot do so if there is no peace in the hobby.