

The Mixumaxu Gazette

39

20 Sept. 1975

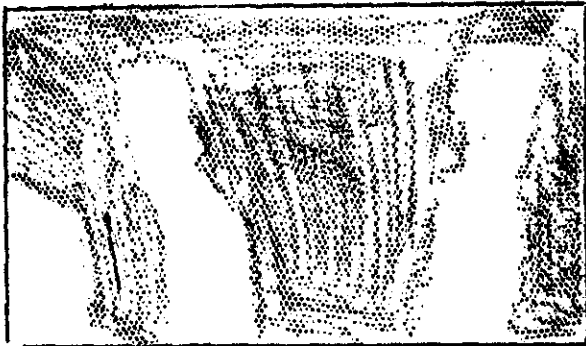
A MIXUMAXU GAZETTE
QUANTITY PUBLICATION
62

First things first: here are some photos taken at DipCon last month by ye editor's camera, a Bilampa 237. They have been carefully transferred to electrostencil and, while they aren't perfect, I hope you'll enjoy them.

Abyssinia,



Robert Bryan Lipton



To the left is one of my better shots: Nick Ulanov is on the left and Scott Rosenberg is on the right. No, wait, it's the other way around. Or maybe Nick is looking in a mirror. No, one of them doesn't have a beard. It must be Nick Ulanov, shaving.



The picture to the right is not too well focused, but the subject is important: this is the first photo of Charlie Reinsel purning someone. Notice the positioning of his arms. This isn't in color, so you can't see it, but Charlie was flushing. Whether this is necessary to purning is not known.



Above: Walter Buchanan. The odd expression on his face is due to being told his character in Stephen's dungeon had disappeared. He accused Nick Ulanov of doing it, but when Scott Rosenberg did the unexpected and called in the Spanish Inquisition, I confessed, having just discovered it's not nice to kill neutral characters if they don't provoke you.

Above: me, Stephen Tihor, Mike Rocamora, Howard Mahler and Arnold Proujansky. Below: some one, unidentified, who made some slurring comments on New York. He will be out of the hospital by Thanksgiving.

I must now roll two 100-sided dice. If they both come up 100, a smoky dragon appears. 18/78. No smoky dragon

THE LENIN PLOY

by Alan Carlson

This ploy, named after the most famous of its executors, is unique. This is because it may be performed by any country at any time, although it is most appropriate in Fall 1917 and most effective in Spring 1901.

I know the question most of you now have: "What does the Lenin Ploy consist of?"

The Lenin Ploy is a two-part action. The first part consists of writing the following set of orders:

_____ (the name of your country) is in Civil Disorder.

This is not all there is to the Lenin Ploy. You must now convince the gamesmaster you have paid from \$1 to \$10 solely to pull this stunt. You must also stop him from putting in a standby. If you fail to convince the gamesmaster you must write the new player, threatening him with assassination, ridicule, poisoning, et c.

One last note: if the threatening letters fail to convince the standby there is a surefire threat: tell him you'll have the Diplomacy widows Association (DWA) tell his wife or girlfriend or both all about what he really does at those Diplomacy sessions on Saturday nights.

USPIDEDOWNLINEAREPARRATOPRSAREMORERKORREDEFFINITEWORTHIFORTHCONFNISHTHECAUS

The Mixmaxu Gazette is a triweekly publication of postal Diplomacy and whatnot, put out by the maunderings of Robert Bryan Lipton, Box 1962, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. 18042. Telephone (215) 252-9170. That's a hall phone so you can't be sure it'll be me answering your call.

Subscriptions are \$5 for 25 issues. We'll also sell you 5 issues for \$1. Back issues are the same. Back issues available are: ##1, 3-7, 9-12, 14, 18-20, 22-26, 28-35, 37-38. I've also copies of THE PUBLISHER, the first Diplomacy musical, with music (and plot structure) from Gilbert & Sullivan's THE MIKADO. 75¢.

We've got game openings: \$7 for most people, and send in your name, address, preference list and telephone number. If you're already playing here it'll cost you \$6. If we trade it'll cost you \$3.50.

I also have for sale one (1) brother. He's in pretty good condition. The best offer takes him.

THISISTHESCONDLINEAREPARRATOPRLIKETHISANDIFFINDIMGROWINGACUSTOMEDPTOTHEMTRUETHYRENOLEAS

I, too have joined the many, and am busy working on a D&D Dungeon. I'm working on the fourth level now. When I get through to the sixth I'll start designing wilderness. Unfortunately, playtesting will have to wait until I get back to New York.

Let me tell all of you again that John Drennick is running a postal campaign. He wants to wait until he has 6-10 people signed up. He only has two right now. One of them is me. Will you help me get this off the ground. Or below it.

HOWABOUTTRAYADYOOUTHINKYOUCANDOPHSESEPARATOPRSWITTHOUTSLANNINGTHEMIDBETTYOUCANTDOPHEMPEC

Time to roll for a smoky dragon again. 06/59. I missed by a mile.

ANSWERS TO THE NEW YORK JARGON QUIZ LASTISH

- 1: Jeremy Paulson's jargon name is Pauls.
2. Eric Blake is one of John Boardman's pseudonyms. His jargon name is therefore Borp.
3. The sentence should be "Bipt is New York's chief beshtoady."
4. Because it is dervied from "Kovaldud".
5. Ray Heuer is Undud.
6. By general concensus of NYC.
8. Rod Walker.
8. "That was no lady, that was my wife."
- 9: "That was no lady, that was Rod Walker."
- 10: Gordon Anderson.

And the winner is... Bill Buchanan? A toddler could figure out these answers? (well, bring me a toddler. I can't make heads nor tails of this.). Not only that, the answers were typed. Carol must have done it.

Bill, by the way, got the following correct: 1,2,4,5,7,8, and got partial credit on 3 & 6.

MMWMOLEWORLDJUSTTURNEDUPSIDEDOWNOUTOFFIGHTANSEWERSATHEEYEARSOLOPWINSANDIASWORHIEDADOLITYS

THE TADEK JARSKI MEMORIAL DEPARTMENT

An Englishman visiting the U.S. was touring the country with an American acquaintance. Passing through upstate New York the American stopped the car he was driving to point out a sign. It read: "30 Miles to Utica" and some local wit had inked on the phrase "If unable to read, ask at the garage". The American began to chuckle at the sign, then quieted as the Englishman remained stone-faced.

Finally, the Englishman smiled. "I understand the joke. Suppose the mechanic were out?"

Moskowitz, having made his fortune, decided to break into local society by joining the country club; he was rebuffed. The Membership Secretary made it clear that people of the Jewish "persuasion" were not welcome.

Controlling his temper outwardly, Moskowitz determined on revenge. He would go away, come back as a WASP, join the club, only to scornfully reveal his true origin and leave the club in contempt.

Moskowitz subsequently sold all his possessions and disappeared.

Five years later a gentleman moved into town and applied for membership. The same membership Secretary of five years before did the interview.

"Your name, please?" he asked the prospective member.

"Manly Hamilton Uppington-Snythe."

"Place of residence?"

"That little cottage on the hill," was the negligent answer, a hand waved lazily in the direction of a forty-room mansion that dominated the entire town.

"Occupation?"

"No Uppington-Snythe has had to work in thirty-seven generations. I must admit that I collect butterflies, however."

The Membership Secretary was, understandably, impressed. "That's fine, sir. Now, there is one more question I must ask. purely pro forma. what is your faith?"

Manly Hamilton Uppington Snythe, nee Moskowitz gloated inwardly. His revenge would be consumated! Drawing himself up to his full height, he thundered in cultured tones:

"I, sir, am of the Goyish faith!"

JOHN, STEPHEN, PAY ATTENTION!

One of the things that has disturbed D&D magic-user players is the increasing restrictions on them. It used to be an expedition would go down and a magic user, even a first-level one, would try to use his magic, since he could use it as many times as he liked.

This was unrealistic... if such a word can be applied to this fantasy game.

Nowadays, under the Gygax rules, a magic user can use a spell only once each day. While this is all right for a wilderness expedition, it reduces a magic user, especially a low-level one, to a state of tottering panic. Dare a first level magic user use his single spell, a sleep spell, on those forty-three crazed orcs charging down on him, or should he let the two fighters, one cleric and three hobbit thief hirelings handle them? If he decides yes, all he can do is throw knives. He should have opted to be a Hobbit thief and get bonuses that way. Or he decides to sleep some of them, and for the rest of the expedition all he can do is throw knives. He should have been a et c.

This is, perhaps not unrealistic, but unenjoyable.

Therefore the chart below. The intersection of the magic-user Level and the Spell Level tell you how many times any given spell may be used each day. Thus a ninth-level magic-user could cast three fireballs, three haste spells and three slow spells each day. That's nine spells from the third-level table. More than Gygax will allow, but less than the number of fireballs I used to cast in a dungeon expedition when I was a sixth-level magic user.

Comments will be appreciated.

SPELL LEVEL---- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

MAGIC-USER
LEVEL

1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	5	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
8	6	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
9	6	4	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
10	6	5	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
11	6	5	4	2	2	0	0	0	0
12	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	0	0
13	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	0	0
14	6	5	4	3	3	2	1	0	0
15	6	5	5	3	3	2	1	0	0
16	6	6	5	4	3	2	2	1	0
17	6	6	5	4	3	3	2	1	0
18	6	6	5	4	4	3	2	1	1
19	6	6	6	4	4	3	3	2	1
20	6	6	6	4	4	3	3	2	1
Over 20	6	6	6	5	4	4	3	2	1

I would suggest, in addition to this modification, that the gamesmaster place a minimum time during which a magic-user may not repeat a spell, no matter how many times he can use it that day. I am going to set the time at 10(level of the spell) minutes. Thus that ninth-level magic-user I mentioned before, could only throw one fireball at the enemy, and then would have to wait a half an hour until he threw the next.

Anyone care to try doing a similar chart for clerics' magic?

 This is as good a place as any to roll for the smoky dragons I've been missing for the last three pages. 66/20. Nope. 13/69. No way. 12/76. Nope. I just hope we'll all still be here when I do roll a smoky dragon.

SOMUCHFORD&DTHISISSUEUNLESSITCOMESUPAGAINOFCOURSEBUTSINCEWEREONPAGEFIVEIDONTTHINKITTOOLI

MORE JARGON WORDS

PROUJANSKY or PROUJ (v.t. from Arnold Proujansky): 1. In D&D to examine a room or building so thoroughly that no deception is possible 2. To investigate something so thoroughly that, when finished, the examined object can never again be used for anything. ex. "We proujed that shack until it was sawdust." Raymond E. Heuer

DEAR RB

SCOTT ROSENBERG ((182-31 Radnor Road, Jamaica, N.Y. 11432; received 9/15/75)): I read your article on New York Jargon (or, as Greg Costikyan has named it, Lingua Nueva Yorke ((should be "Eboracium", shouldn't it?)) Conspiracia with great interest and ended with dismay. To quote a childhood hero, "you don't know shit".

Your paragraph on naming, general rules, was fairly accurate, although to my knowledge no one refers to Kovaldud as "Dud" simply because it would be confusing-- that word is used so often (right, Bruce). (if it isn't my ears are going bad.))

As far as specific names, Costikyan is "Cost", pronounced "Gust" from the Dudland press series in THE POCKET ARMENIAN, where he was called "Costodud" and Heuer insisted it should be called "Gustodud".

No one has ever called me Bozo except Howard Mahler who calls everyone Bozo. My proper Jargon name is Dot, obviously corrupted from Scott. "Roso" was in use eight months ago-- you're behind the times.

Gil Neiger is "Glam" as a contraction of of "Gillum", obviously a reference to similarities between him and Tolkien's character.

Why Tud is Tud is a long story. Gil was typing a stencil late at night and wrote the word "Dud" all over it. At the bottom he mentioned Nick Ulanov. He wanted to say "Nick 'the dud' Ulanov" but because he was so tired (and had typed "dud" so many times); he typed "Nick 'tud dud' Ulanov". If you check your typewriter you will find the letter combinations "he" and "ud" are spatially related on the keyboard.

POUCH was left alone because Gil was editing it at the time he was making up all the dumb names. Nobody calls GRAUSTARK "Grau" that I know of. ((Ray Heier and I have used that phrase.))

THE POCKET ARMENIAN is "Lock" through a more intricate process. Glam and Dil kept calling it "The Pocket Barbarian" and because of the wonderful, crystal-clear quality of sound transmission by Ma Bell, I thought they were saying "The Locket Barbarian". The step from there to "Lock" was short and painful.

((Well, Scott goes insultingly on for another 1/2 page. He denies the name of the Conspiracy (when, as everyone knows, all conspiracies are Sinister and Monolithi and this was started to embarrass Rod Walker; He points out the Jargon name of Ray Heuer's CARN DUM is actually "Cumulo Dujm".; in general he insults me and impugns the likeliness of my answering the quiz properly (the answers were put on stencil six days before the receipt of this letter. But I shan't bore you with all of that; it's enough I was bored.

NOOOOUGISHALLNOTPRINTYOURIDEAABOUT"PORTAGING"THISISNOTAVARIANTZINESEEIFGREGCOSTIKYANWANTS

Some new New York Conspiracy zines have come out recently. Three of them are:

URF DURFAL from Greg Costikyan. This is nearing the half-dozen mark, and has to be seen to be believed (I snappy phrase, that. I hope it isn't trademarked by Viking Systems). This runs variants, and by "variants" I don't mean your common, garden-variety variant where you change one point of the rules or play on a new board; no, Costykian likes 'em only if they're really variants. He's on the lump-sum plan, with a sliding scale so the sub will match his costs. Try it. 1675 York Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028.

Next is Robert Goldman's THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE. Badly printed, but that's been known to happen here. Subs are 10/\$2. There's no mention of game openings, but I imagine he has some. Variants, both of Diplomacy and S&T games published so far. Robert Goldman, 200 Old Army Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583.

Newest is Adam Gruen's DYNASTY. This is a middling-well mimeoed zine, with an ad section you may find interesting and/or useful. Subscriptions are 4/\$1, or one year for \$2.50; if you get in quickly, you only have to subscribe to play in a game. Adam Gruen, 470 North Street, Harrison, N.Y. 10528

ROLL CALL

I know I printed one of these in July, but people have been going back to school since.

GORDON ANDERSON: Lock Box 2788, Chicago, Ill. 60690
 HERB BARENTS: R.R.#2, 1142 S. 96th Ave., Zeeland, Mich. 49464
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 JOHN BESHARA: 155 W. 68th Street, New York, N.Y.10023
 DOUG BEYERLEIN: 240 Hawthorne, Apt. F, Palo Alto, Ca. 94301
 PETER BIRKS: 39 Handforth Road, London, SW9 0LL, ENGLAND
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 JOHN BOYER: 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, Pa. 17013
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 GREG COSTIKYAN: 1675 York Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028
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 FERKIN DOYLE: 1519 Nauda in St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19146
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 MICHAEL FRIEDMAN: 76 Halyard Road, North woodmere, N.Y.11581
 GAMES RESEARCH, INC.: Box 18N, Boston, Mass. 02118
 ADAM GILINSKY: River Road, Scarborough, N.Y.10510
 ROBERT GOLDMAN: 200 Old Army Road, Scarsdale, N.Y.10583
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 ED HOLLSHWANDNER: Box 1901, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. 18042
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 JONATHAN JACOBS: 5514 South University Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637
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 AKE E B JONSSON: Box 176, S-981 01 KIRUNA 1, SWEDEN
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Corrections and additions will be vastly appreciated. Circulation is 84.

ANDONETASUPSIDEDOWNLINEARESPARBARAFORBEFOREIGNOFFONTOHEGAMESSTARTINGOFFWITHTHEIRSHREALLY

1975 J GM BLOWS IT ENCORE LIMBO

Well, this time I loused it up. Following last issue I followed my usual procedure and cleared all the moves out of the folders I keep them in and... yes, including the moves for 1975 J. Perhaps this can be attributed to the fact I was preparing to move to college and my mind was not where it should have been, but that is no excuse. There is no excuse. I can only ask the players to forgive me and submit Spring 1903 moves again. Deadline is reset for the listing at the end of moves section. Please note Ed Hollshwandner's address. Once again I offer my inadequate apologies.

THATWASREALLYBADIDONTTHINKIVEEVERTHROWNOUTMOVESLIKETHATBEFOREHERESHOPINGITNEVERHAPPENSAG

1973 Cqf (Anonymity) POWERS PREPARE FOR SECOND DECADE WINTER 1910

FRANCE: Builds A Mar, A Bre GERMANY: Builds F Kie, A Ber

PARIS to BERLIN: In the midst of resigning Sultans the war goes on!! For the Spring and Fall we will gain Bul and Gre. I don't know whether I'll support you to Bul first or take Gre first, as the new Sultan must be kept guessing. Anyway. A Rum-Bul and A Gal-Rum will hold Rum for you and then I can support A Rum-Bul or go for Greece as I see fit. Sev should also be yours, so we'll be getting even more, I hope. It's fun to see the Turks eating it, but he dies quickly now. By the way, notice I moved to Pic adnot Eur,

and built in Mar and Bre and not Par. We may need the armies. I could have built nothing, but that seemed strange, and a fleet in Bre would have seemed threatening. If not, the next build will be a fleet or whatever.

WOODMERE(IDUNNO): Just a note to remind the players that they get no credit for playing in this game. No subscription credit, that is. In other words, if your address label reads "39", this will be the last issue of THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE you'll receive, unless you resubscribe or something.

ANDNOWALINEARSEPARATORTOSEPARATETWOGAMESBYTHEWAYTHELATESTINFOONTHEPOSTALINCREASEPLACESIT

1974 GE

IF ARMY MUNICH HAD HELD WITH SUPPORT, THIS GAME FALL 1906
WOULD BE OVER

AUSTRIA(Charles Schandl)

A Rom S FRENCH A Ven-Tus
A Tri S A Bud
A Alb-Gre
A Vie S A Bud
A Bud H

FRANCE(Peter Berggren)

A Cly-Edi
F Edi-Yor
F Eng-Nth
F Mid-NAT
A Pic-bel
A Ruh S GERMAN A Dur-Mun
A Ven-Apu
F Tyr-Nap
F Tun-Ion

ITALY(Raymond E. Heuer) NO MOVES RECEIVED

A Apu, F Nap, F Ion all Hold
A Ser is dislodged, annihilated.

RUSSIA(David Hertz)

A Kis-Mun
A Den-Kie
A Ber S A Kie-Mun
F Lal S A Den-Kie
A Mun-Tyr
F Nth-Bel
F Nrg-NAT
A Rum-Ser
A Bul S A Rum-Ser
F Gre H
A Gal-Bud
F Nwy-Nrg
A War-Sil
F Con-Sny(this unit was omitted lastish)

GERMANY(Ronald M. Kelly)

Summer: A Mun retreats- Dur
FALL

A Dur-Mun
A Hol S FRENCH A Ruh

SUPPLY CENTERS

AUSTRIA: Rom, ~~Nth~~, Bud, Tri, Vie (4) must remove one unit.

FRANCE: Liv, Bre, Lon, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Edi, Tun, Ven (10). May build one unit.

GERMANY: Hol, Mun (2). Even

ITALY: ~~Ser~~, ~~Gre~~, ~~Act~~, Nap (1). Must remove two units.

RUSSIA: Den, Lal, Ank, Con, Mos, Nwy, St.P, Swe, Rum, Sev, War, Bel, Ber, Kie, ~~Act~~, ~~Act~~, ~~Gre~~ (17). May build three units.

Since Italy has only one center left, I'll not call for a standby, but let it go into civil dis order if Ray Heuer misses again. Since most of the builds are well behind the lines, send in your Spring 1907 moves with your Winter 1906 builds. Spring moves may, of course, be conditional on the winter adjustments.

WELLTHISONEWILLLASTMAYBETWOMOREISSUESANDTHENBEDONEANINTERESTINGGAMETOGMASITREINFORCESMY

1975 AY

ITALO-TURKISH ADVANCES CONTINUE

SPRING 1903

ENGLAND(Ronald M. Kelly)

F St.P(nc)-Nwy
F Liv S F Iri
F Lon-Eng

ENGLAND, CONTINUED

F Iri S F Lon-Eng
A Wal-Lon

WHERE DID YOU EVER GET A NAME LIKE "THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE"?

I get asked that question, on the average, about eight times a year. When I do, I think of an article Conrad von Metzke wrote in EVERYTHING, and wonder why the questioner hasn't read that article. Then I remember: that article was written two years ago! Jesus but it makes me feel old. And how are you today, John?

There is a vague tradition in this hobby that zines are named after fictional places. This started in the beginning, when John Boardman produced GRAUSTARK way back in 1963. This practice, unfortunately, has died out almost entirely in the last two years. It used to be something of a matter of honor to use as reference a work which no one else has read but the cognoscenti. Thus, last year, when Bruce Schlickbernd started Poictesme, most people assumed the name was from J.B. Cabell's fantasy works. Charles Sharp, however, outdid everyone and innocently inquired whether the title was from Cabell, or from an obscure novel by H. Beam Piper.

Now to go through the titles laying about, in no order save their nearness to the top of the pile.

CAIR PARAVEL: This is vaguely in the style of Welsh names for towns, but seems to be made up out of Gil Neiger's head.

THE POLAR KNIGHT: one of these can last a long time in northern Sweden.

JANUS: the two-headed... or perhaps two-faced god of the Roman New Year.

GREATEST HITS: Al Capone on St. Valentine's Day, apparently.

EN PASSANT: from chess lit., French for "In passing". If the opponent's pawn moved forward two spaces on its first move, you can, if you wish, take it as if it had moved only one.

EREHWON: S.E. Butler? Or is that LOOKING BACKWARDS? Some Utopian novel, anyway.

DAS EDELWEISS SUL-JOURNAL-PRESS: Edelweiss is the capital of Graustark.

CLAW & FANG: How all Diplomats should play.

BLACK HOLE: Mondays through Thursdays, the one of Calcutta. Fridays through Sundays, the pocket-universe type.

1901 AND ALL THAT... There's a humorous history of England entitled 1066 AND ALL THAT... y'see.

WHY, IS ONE MISSING?: Whoops, that's for APA-Q.

THE POCKET ARMENIAN: from a mediocre New York joke about how useful one would be, this is another mediocre New York joke.

THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE: Moravia and Bohemia form the Czech in Czechoslovakia.

GRAUSTARK: from the novel of the same name by George Barr McCutcheon.

CARN DUM: If it had the accent circumflex over the u it would be from Tolkien

FALLOVIA: from the SLOBINPOLIT ZHURNAL, this is one of the more prosperous areas on the board.

URF DURFAL: Another New York joke. In one version, it was simply a particularly funnily-named province on the EAST IS RED playtest board. In another version it is a phantom town in that game that appears to slow down the Russians.

IMPASSABLE: How are the roads in Switzerland in the middle of the winter, Walter?

DOLCHSTOSS: German colloquialism, meaning "Stab in the back."

THE EXPONENT: of dudness

GINNUNGAGAP: the primordial ice out of which the world was created.

RETIEF: the hero of Keith Laumer's series about a Galactic diplomat

THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE: the leading newspaper in the capital city of Toka, in Gordon Dickson and Poul Anderson's EARTHMAN'S BURDEN

LETSSEETHISISLINETENANDTHEADDRESSBLOCKBEGINSONLINEFORTYONETHATLEAVESTHIRTYLINESTOFILLUP

Even though it's the end of the issue, I've still got openings in three games. I've never had trouble in filling games before. How about a few mentions out there?

Also, I am just about done with my present standby list. If you want to standby in here, let me know.

SHOULDICONTINUETOUSELINEARSEPARATORSFOTHERESTOFTHISPAGEEACHONEUSESUPFOURLINESYESIVENOTH

I earlier mentioned I was working on a D&D dungeon. Well, I've pushed it to its sixth level, and am now working on the seventh. That level is all mapped out, but keying it will take some time as I've over eight hundred rooms. I've an amusing little 7th monster chart. But the best part is it's a Slobbovian Dungeon. With the Zhurnal unhappily dead, this is as much of Slobbovia as I'll get. Sigh.

___ You are needed as a standby in game ____. See page ____. Also game _____ see page ___

___ This will be your last issue unless you resubscribe.

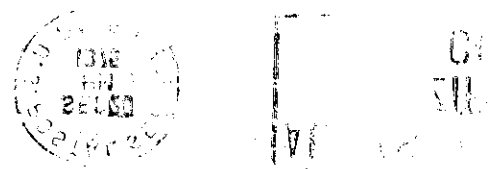
___ You are a buckpuppet.

X You will realize this is an attempt to stretch out this issue.

X If you haven't gotten this it's because I've run out of mailing labels, my handwriting is poor and the USPS has sent this to Outer Mongolia.

X The end is near

X And here it is, right below.



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