

The Mixumaxu Gazette

43

SPECIAL NIECE'S BIRTHDAY ISSUE

3 January 1975

On December 27, 1975, the first Lipton of the next generation, Melissa, was born to my brother and his wife Joy. I must say, it's an enchanting prospect, being an uncle.

1974 GD

EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES A CENTER TO
AUSTRIA'S VICTORY

FALL 1909

AUSTRIA (Paul Thomas):

A Bu - Gre

A Tri H

A Tyr-Ven

F Ion-Tun

F Tyr-Lyo

A Gas-Spa

F Wes S A Gas-Spa

A Pie-Mar

A Mun H

A Boh S A Mun

A Sev-Mos

A Gal-War

A Ukr & A Sil S A Gal-War

A Vie-Gal

FRANCE (Ed Hollshwandner): NMR

A Kie, A Ruh, A Bur all H

ENGLAND (Eric Verheiden)

F Kie retreats to Den

F Den S FRENCH A Kie

F Bal S A Ber

A Liv-Prü

A St.P-Mos

F Bre-Gas

F Por-Spa (sc)

A Pic-Par

A Ber S A Liv-Prü

F Eng-Mid

ITALY (Dennis Klein)

F Tri retreats to Alb

F Alb-Gre

RUSSIA (Alan Carlson)

A Mos S A War

A War S A Mos (dislodged)

SUPPLY CENTERS

| COUNTRY | GAINS | LOSES | RETAINS | OWNS | WINS | |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------|---|------|------|------|
| AUSTRIA | Tun, Spa, War, Tri | | Mar, Rom, Ank, Con, Nap, Bud, Bul, Gre, Mun, Rum, Ser, Ven, Vie, Smy, Sev | | 19 | WINS |
| ENGLAND | Par | Kie, Spa, Swe, Bre | Por, Bel, Ber, St. P, Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, | | 12 | |
| FRANCE | Kie | Par, Tun | Hol | | 2 | |
| ITALY | | Tri | | | 0 | |
| RUSSIA | | War | Mos | | 1 | |

With this set of moves, Austria wins 1974 GD. The supply center chart, along with analyses by various players, will appear next issue. Congratulations to Paul for winning, and my thanks (and a certain amount of awe) to Dennis Klein, who managed to hang onto a losing position for so long. After the Winter of 1903, with France and Austria bearing down on him, I would have given him 4-1 odds he wouldn't survive another three years, but he played a brilliant last-ditch defensive game.

Between last issue and this I received an irate letter from Ferkin Doyle, accusing me of throwing the game to Paul. His letter and my comments appeared in DAS EDELWEISS SUN-JOURNAL-PRESS #3, along with some corrections.

A MIXUMAXU GAZETTE
QUANTITY PUBLICATION
80

THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE is a triweekly publication of postal Diplomacy and whatnot, edited, published and generally loused up by Robert Bryan Lipton, Box 1962, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. 18042.

Subscriptions are 10¢/issue +postage. I'll keep the books. I have game openings at a \$1 gamefee plus a maintained subscritption. Traders will pay \$2.

Besides this, VAUDEVILLE LINES, my zine for APA-Q is available for the price of an ssae for subscriptions.

Publications in stock are:

THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE: ##3-7, 9-12, 14, 18-20, 22-26, 28-35, 37-42
(25¢ each or 5/\$1)

VAUDEVILLE LINES: ##1-14 (20¢ each or 10/\$1)

IRVING: ##2-6 (20¢ each or 10/\$1)

DAS EDELWEISS SUN-JOURNAL-PRESS: ##1-4 (20¢ each or 10/\$1)

NOVARIA: #1 (10¢)

THE PUBLISHER: 75¢

Prices may go up as I consider postal increases. But a copy of everything in stock is \$5. Yes, a 98¢ value for \$5.

I am considering some changes for TMG. I am not, however, going to make them blindly. Someplace in this issue you will find a ballot sheet. I ask you to fill it out and return it. All subscribers who do so will have 20¢ added to their subscription credit. Players and traders are asked to fill it out and return it out of the niceness of their hearts. Fat chance of that.

I actually have what I intend to do all planned out, but I want confirmation. There will be a number of blind questions to throw you off the scent. I'll just thank you for your cooperation now, by saying

Abyssinia,


Robert Bryan Lipton.

ONE OF THE GREATEST PROBLEMS IN THE HOBBY IS THAT MANY PEOPLE WRITE LINEAR SEPARATORS INCORRECT

While this is going to press, so also is the SLOBINPOLIT ZHURNAL, the hobby's foremost press magazine. The ZHURNAL has such writers as John Carroll, Bruce Schlickbernd, John Leeder, Ray Heuer and myself. This magazine is so loved by its readers and writers that it's now under its sixth or seventh publisher, which consists of a consortium of seven publishers! Wow! Send a dollar for a sample issue or two. Make all checks out to APA-Slobbovia and send them to Robert Bryan Lipton (well, you can figure out the rest).

LY ONE OF THE FIRST PROBLEMS IS THE USE OF PUNCTUATION MARKS PUNCTUATION MARKS SHOULD NOT BE USED

Smoky dragon rolls for this issue. A roll of 100/100 means a smoky dragon appears. Figuring on 12 pages: 82/43, 11/05, 84/11, 18/72, 94/97, 90/77, 05/27, 18/24, 54/04, 50/79, 03/93, 72/58. No smoky dragons. I would like to take this opportunity to complain at the usurpation of the smoky dragon roll by Ben Grossman in his PREDUD LEFTIST and Bob Goldman in THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE and a couple of others too. The American Association for the Preservation of Smoky Dragons is worried that with so many people anxious to use a smoky dragon the present smoky dragon population in the States will be depleted. If you don't want that on your conscience here's what you should do:

1: turn the page

2: Boycott all stores which sell smoky dragon-skin shoes, pocketbooks and frisbees.

3: License your smoky dragon rolls! This money goes to the American Association for the Preservation of Smoky Dragons.

4: Boycott all restaurants which reserve to serve smoky dragons!

5: Wear a "100/100 PER CENT FOR SMOKY DRAGONS" button.

6: Join the American Association for the Preservation of Smoky Dragons.

This space has been donated to the American Association for the Preservation of Smoky Dragons as a public service. THIS INCLUDES "AND (AND) AND; AND; BUT MOST ESPECIALLY NOT. OR, NONEVER. OR, BECAUSE THATS NOT

There should be a cover by Stu Shiffman on this issue (he said hopefully)

CORRECT AND ANOTHER MISTAKE IS THE USE OF MINISCULES LETTERS ALL LETTERS IN A LINE ARE SEPARATED

The reason I have not been in contact with people the past couple of weeks is because after school let out and I had spent a weekend in New York, I headed down south to Jamaica and built up a tan that lasted all of four hours after I got back to New York. I only got back on the first. Yes, I had a fine time.

SHOULD BE CAPITAL BECAUSE THEY FILL UP SPACE MORE FULLY AS YOU CAN SEE WHEN I USE MINISCULES HERE

Now that the Canadian postal strike is over, John Leeder's RUNESTONE is having its 100th issue published. RUNESTONE is John's second publication, the first being ARRAKIS which he published for about 35 issues before handing it over to some other guys and leaving town. (We won't ask why he had to leave town so quickly he had to leave his zine behind)

RUNESTONE is published weekly with barely peccable gamesmastering and, when the CPG doesn't interfere, startling regularity. Besides the games, there is lots of good press and plenty of extemporaneous writing, which John does very well. Subs are 1¢/page + postage (John keeps the books). Money goes to: 208 Haysboro Crescent SW., Calgary, Alta. CANADA T2V 3G3

THAT LOOKS HORRIBLE DOESN'T IT WELL I MIGHT MIXED LIKE THIS I AM ROEBUCK OF SEARS & ROEBUCK

A new game was filled up recently. Notification went out in DAS EDELWEISS SUN-JOURNAL-PRESS #4. The players and countries are:

- AUSTRIA: Alan Carlson, 8633 Harrison Circle, Minneapolis, Minn. 55437
- ENGLAND: Richard Kovalcik, jr.; Room 304, Bexley Hall, 52 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139
- FRANCE: Joel Klein, 62-60 99th Street, Apt. 1220, Rego Park, N.Y. 11374
- GERMANY: David Hansen, 6312 92 Avenue, Edmonton, ALTA T6B 0S5 CANADA
- ITALY: Zane Parks, 30 South Broom Street, Apt. 507, Madison, Wisc. 53703
- RUSSIA: Dennis Klein, Box 912, Knox College, Galesburg, Ill. 61401; between Nov. 24 & Jan. 3; 235 Gentry Street, Park Forest, Ill. 60466
- TURKEY: Paul Novak, 8004 Harrison Avenue, Munster, Ind. 46321

Countries were determined by preference lists. Spring 1901 moves are due by 23 January 1976. Until Dr. Beyerlein assigns a Boardman Number, this game will be referred to as MG X.

ANOTHER AND THE GREATEST PROBLEM IS USING A LINEAR SEPARATOR AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE USING

The remaining space is too large for a space filler.

TO SEPARATE SOMETHING FROM SOMETHING THAT CAN HARDLY BE CALLED A LINEAR SEPARATOR SINCE SEPAR

So I'll use two.

This seems as good an issue as any to take care of housecleaning, so:

MIXUMAXU GAZETTE QUANTITY PUBLICATIONS ##46-87

Since this last appeared in #34 of TMG I've been publishing a lot more stuff. Besides TMG and supporting material such as DAS EDELWEISS SUN-JOURNAL-PRESS, I am now a publishing member of APA-Slobbovia (all Slobbovia material marked *) and have been producing VAUDEVILLE LINES for APA-Q (a New York-based Amateur Press Association) and IRVING (the first issue of which was called FROM UNDER THE RUG. Any item marked with a + may be had for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Everything else is either for sale at the rates listed on page two, or you can't get them.

| MGQP# | TITLE | MGQP# | TITLE |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------|---|
| 46 | From Under The Rug #1 | 68 | Houserules for Diplomacy #2+ |
| 47 | Vaudeville Lines #2 | 69 | Das Edelweiss Sun-Journal-Press # 2 |
| 48 | TMG #35 | 70 | Additions to D&D for the Slobbovian Variant (#1) |
| 49 | TMG # 36 | 71 | TMG #41 |
| 50 | Vaudeville Lines # 3 | 72 | Irving # 6 |
| 51 | Vaudeville Lines # 4 | 73 | Rules for Slobbovia (Nov. 1975 Edition) * |
| 52 | Irving # 2 | 74 | Slobinpolit Zhurnal #42 * |
| 53 | Irving # 3 | 75 | Constitution of APA-Slobbovia Darft One * |
| 54 | TMG # 37 | 76 | TMG #42 |
| 55 | Vaudeville Lines # 5 | 77 | Vaudeville Lines #11 |
| 56 | Vaudeville Lines # 6 | 78 | Das Edelweiss Sun-Journal-Press #3 |
| 57 | TMG # 38 | 79 | Vaudeville Lines # 12 |
| 58 | Vaudeville Lines # 7 | 80 | TMG # 43 |
| 59 | Irving # 4 | 81 | Character Sheets for D&D+ |
| 60 | Houserules for Diplomacy #1 | 82 | Additions to D&D for the Slobbovian Variant (#2)+ |
| 61 | Slobinpolit Zhurnal # 42a* | 83 | Das Edelweiss Sun-Journal-Press #4 |
| 62 | TMG # 39 | 84 | Vaudeville Lines # 13 |
| 63 | Vaudeville Lines # 8 | 85 | Neurse Schivosk # 1 * |
| 64 | Vaudeville Lines # 9 | 86 | Vaudeville Lines #14 |
| 65 | Vaudeville Lines # 10 | 87 | Irving # 7 |
| 66 | TMG # 40 | | |
| 67 | Irving # 5 | | |

The publications are numbered in the order I began to type stencils for them. This list is accurate to 15 Dec. 1975. The next listing will probably be in the 3rd anniversary issue of TMG.

ATESSOMETHINGFROMNOTHINGCANHARDLYBESAIDTOSEPARATEANOTHERGREATERRORMADEISTHATSON

I shall begin announcing it here: I am soliciting material for my third anniversary issue, scheduled to be published July 10 (the day after my birthday!). I will accept humor, poetry, reviews of books, games, records and trivia: anything except serious tactical or strategy articles. I reserve the right to reject anything I dislike. Accepted material will be paid for in subscription credit: \$1.50 of credit for articles over one page, \$2 of credit for accepted illustrations, and something-to-be-worked-out for articles less than one page. Which reminds me, Peter: what happened to those other Centennial Minutiae you were going to send me?

PEOPLEPUTONESMALLPIECEINASALINEARSEPARATORANDKEEPREPEATINGITREPEATINGITREPEATINGIT

Am I using too many space fillers this issue?

PHILLIP JOSE FARMER: Farmer is the chameleon of sf. Although his first stories appeared in the late 1940s, it was not until the middle 1950s that he began to write in volume. He quickly made his reputation for his stories about alien sex: "The Lovers," "Mother," and others. These were not pornographic stories, but ones in which the major points of interest was the biological functioning of the aliens.

While writing these stories, Farmer turned out a few which were simultaneously outrageously funny and frightening. The best of these is probably "Totem and Taboo."

At this point Farmer's reputation had grown from nothing to one of the foremost writers in a year. As the other writers of the instantaneous rise had been (Campbell, Weinbaum and Boyd are examples), he was instantly typed. Weinbaum and Campbell used pseudonyms. Farmer wrote his first novel on a subject nowhere approaching his short stories. This was promptly accepted for the first prize of a competition Shasta Books and Pocket Books was running.

Then the problems started. Briefly, Shasta disappeared with the money. Farmer is said to have had a nervous breakdown. His works slowed down to a trickle, and analysis has shown some of his works in this period to be either rewrites or earlier drafts of his already-published works. A few, however, were notable. His "Alley Man", an exploration of DeCamp's theme from "Old Man Mulligan" is about a group of Neanderthals surviving to the present.

When he began to appear regularly again in the sixties, things had changed. For one thing, he was writing porno sf (and good porno too). His standard sf showed changes too; he was writing pastiches of other works. THE OTHER LOG OF PHINEAS FOGG was an alien-invasion rewrite of Verne's AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS. THE WIND-WHALES OF ISHMAEL is a clumsy sequel to Moby-Dick, in which Ishmael gets stuck in the future.

All of these are tied together loosely.

Farmer's magnum opus of recent years is TARZAN ALIVE, a biography of Tarzan which links his geneology with every major pulp and detective hero of the 20th century. An attempt to repeat it with DOC SAVAGE: HIS APOCALYPTIC LIFE was less successful.

If Farmer has a fault, it is that he is often unable to write as well as his ideas demand. If Farmer were less ambitious, his novels would be good, for he can write well. But he insists on stretching his talents, which means many flops. And a few spectacular successes, like his PRIVATE COSMOS series. This includes (in no order): BEHIND THE WALLS OF TERRA, A PRIVATE COSMOS, and MAKER OF UNIVERSES.

Oh, that novel Farmer wrote in the 1950s? It finally appeared in 1969. It's about Richard Burton (the traveller and translator of Arab stories) and Mark Twain, meeting in a strange world into which they have been resurrected. It's called TO YOUR SCATTERED BODIES GO. Excellent.

H.L. GOLD is best known as the founding editor of GALAXY. Most works that bear his names are anthologies of stories from that magazine.

Before founding GALAXY, Gold had written a novellette, "None But Lucifer" in collaboration with L. Sprague DeCamp. Despite an excellent word-of-mouth reputation it has not seen print since its original publication in UNKNOWN. Jack Chalker, who runs Mirage Press, says that he has been trying to get reprint rights for years, but DeCamp insists it is Gold's story, Gold says it's DeCamp's, and the two hate each other too much to

discuss the matter.

Besides "None But Lucifer", Gold wrote a few excellent fantasies (such as "The Trouble with Water") and science fiction stories. Most of his best works can be found in the collection THE OLD DIE RICH.

Gold is still alive and living in California.

RON GOULART: Goulart began to appear in the 1950s and quickly established himself as a humorous writer. I personally do not like his stories, for his humor is an hysterical humor. Most of his works are about exaggerated southern Californian crazies. His earlier works, until the mid-1960s are better. For his best, try CHAMLEON CORPS and THE GHOST BREAKER. He has written about 25 books, of which I have read 14.

MARTIN GREENBERG: Greenberg ran Gnome Press, one of the dozen specialty publishers of the 1950s. Whenever Gnome Press put out an anthology, Greenberg edited it. He originated the concept of the "theme anthology", in which the stories are supposedly of one future. Greenberg, however, chose his stories very badly for this idea, forming clumsy patchworks. He did, however, reprint many excellent stories from the 1940s. His anthologies are not generally available today.

EDMOND HAMILTON: Hamilton is married to Leigh Brackett. He began writing super-science for FIRD TALES in the middle 1920s, and within ten years he had become the foremost super-science writer, throwing worlds about like ping-pong balls, destroying suns, annihilating galaxies, and crushing a universe now and then. Hamilton also wrote almost all the Captain Future novels, a sort of predecessor to Perry Rhodan.

Hamilton's best short story collection is WHAT'S IT LIKE OUT THERE?, a dark mixture of stories.

Hamilton's space opera is very enjoyable, because he does his idiocies so blithely. "What? We've got to get to Rigel in two days? Well, pour on the radium me hearties and we'll beat Mad Nick yet!" Worth an afternoon to read a book by him.

HARRY HARRISON is a John W. Campbell jr. disciple with strong overtones of Goulart's hysterical writing style. His most highly acclaimed work is BILL THE GALACTIC HERO, a humorous thing. His works are never unreadable, but never excellent.

Next time we start off with Robert A. Heinlein.

THOSE ARE THE MAIN PROBLEMS WITH SOME PEOPLE LINEAR SEPARATOR NOW FOR A BIT OF HISTORY AS NEAR

Ballantine has reissued Larry Niven's short-story collection ALL THE MYRIAD WAYS at \$1.50. Buy it. It may be the finest one-author sf collection I've ever come across.

AS I CAN TELL JOHN LEEDER ORIGINATED THE LINEAR SEPARATOR IT THEN SPREAD TO SLOBIN POLITZHUR

This issue of THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE is going to be distributed to APA-Q members at the next distribution, probably #34 or 35. LOCs will be appreciated.

NAL I PICKED IT UP FROM THERE AND RAY HEUER STARTED A LINEAR SEPARATOR WAR WITH ME AND IT SPREAD

MORE NEW YORK CONSPIRACY JARGON

TESSER: (from Gary Tesser): 1. v. i. "to pull a Tesser" := 2. tesser, v. i.: to be blithely late. "He tessered until after midnight and then wanted to know where we were." Ira Donewitz.

Over Thanksgiving vacation I went down into Edi Birnan's dungeon, and a good one it was too. My character was an Elven magicuser-fighter named Desdhemoire (pronounced Sidney by the harsh tongues of gamesmasters). After spending a couple of days in the dungeon I managed to break both my knees (Edi loved that) and when I got out I had to have one leg amputated. My character now has a peg-leg and is learning to dance the hornpipe. As usual, my daring turned out for the worst, while Arnold Proujansky's yielded him lots of good stuff.

Edi had one amusing little treat. From a scroll I got two crystal globes which worked this way: I kept one and had to sell the other. For every 100 gold pieces of price for the second, the first increased my luck one time. Thus if I had sold it for 1000 gold pieces it would have worked 10 times. I believe I sold it to Howard Mahler by telling him "It increases luck, and it does it one time for every 100 gold pieces it is sold for." I neglected to tell him for whom it increased luck. Howard's character kicked the bucket that expedition. Nice sense of humor, Edi.

ALLOVERDIPLOMACYSINCETHENTHATSHOULDBEENOUGHABOUTLINEARSEPARATORSINTHISISSUESO

SMOKY DRAGONS

There has been a lot of chatter about smoky dragons lately. No one seems to know what they are.

Smoky dragons originated in August this year. We were going out in Evan's wilderness and Gil Neiger had somehow gone chaotic. We were mooching around the dessert, looking for some buried treasure; me with my Ranger character, Arnold Proujansky with his magicuer, Gil with his whatever, and various others.

Suddenly a bunch of paladins rode up. The leader announced that his sword detected chaotic people and the whole bunch attacked us. Gil and I were on the front line. Gil got hit with a sword that paralyzed chaotic characters, and I defended myself, shouting at the paladin who was attacking me that I was a ranger and what was he doing. After a few strokes he believed me, and the whole bunch rode off, leaving Gil paralyzed.

I took off after the paladins and demanded an explanation. Since I was a ranger they told me there were chaotics in the party and what was I doing associating with such riff-raff?

I rode back to the party. We buried Gil's sword, which was also chaotic and rode on to look for chaotic creatures, with a cleric praying over Gil's character.

At this point Gil began to ask Evan if there was a smoky dragon. No one knew what a smoky dragon was. Gil explained that Smoky Dragons Can Cure Paralysis. Evan told Gil he'd roll two 100-sided dice each day, and if they both came up 100, a smoky dragon would appear.

Since his character couldn't do anything except get saddle sores on his stomach, Gil began to write up a description of smoky dragons. They are lawful, telepathic and can cure paralysis, in addition to various magical abilities. They dwell in tobacco shops and firehouses.

No smoky dragons turned up so, on returning to town I dumped Gil at a monastery, explained the situation, ~~by the way/then/xxx~~ made a sizable donation, and left.

Since then I've been rolling for smoky dragons. I figure I'll come across one someday.

MAN IS SMART, BUT WOMAN IS SMARTER

This is your international reporter Robert Bryan Lipton, sitting at Sunspot on the north coast of Jamaica in the West Indies, and when I say "on" the coast, I mean it. The Caribbean is about 70 feet from where I sit. Instead of sending out eighty postcards, I'll tell you what's happening.

My day starts at 9:00 AM, when I finally decide to get up. I dress in t-shirt and swimtrunks, and go have breakfast. Today's was lox & bagel and scrambled eggs, with Blue Mountain coffee. This is accompanied by conversation with my family, and listening with amazement to my cousin Larry. Larry knows an infinite number of jokes, all of them bad. He also knows a large number of good jokes, but he can't tell them properly.

Tired out by breakfast's exhausting 45 minutes, I take a nap in the shade.

I wake up again about 11:00 AM and pose for my aunt Mindy, who is an artist. She is trying to do a portrait that looks like me. She has done two so far, and they look like Charles Bronson. It takes a good deal of self-control to pose for portraiture, as you can't be forever jumping up to go run the three-minute mile. My aunt says I am very good at this sort of work. The first portrait is entitled "Man Resting"; the second is called "Man Resting II."

People who don't know any better think this is easy work, but we models know better. By the time the half-hour session is done, my nerves are shot. I drink two fingers of Tia Maria and take a short nap.

At 1:00 PM I wake up, just in time for lunch. Lunch yesterday consisted of grilled-cheddar-cheese-and-ham, salad, and iced tea, and more of Larry's jokes.

After lunch comes my time to build up a tan. Rain or shine, at 2:45 I am out on the beach for 15 minutes.

This is a very disquieting experience. As I lay there, I think of the possibility of skin cancer and sunburn. After 15 minutes I head back for the house, have a peach brandy, and sleep off the bad vibes.

I wake up at 4:30 and read about ninety pages. At 5:15 I notice my eyes are tired. A Bloody Mary doesn't do as much to wake them up again as you'd think, so I take a few winks.

I wake up at 6:30, just in time for hors d'oeuvres. I take a glass of hock to aid digestion. Unfortunately, I must maintain a stream of badinage during hors d'oeuvres, so after a half hour, I go lie down for a few minutes.

I wake up at 8:00, right on time for dinner. Dinner is grapefruit, salad, the main dish (last night was Jamaican chicken) and dessert. Larry is usually too tired to say anything by this time.

After dinner, Eric and I (Eric is a cousin) make the 100 yard trek to the Runaway Bay Hotel.

The 1976 woman is available in Jamaica, and I don't care for the changes in this year's model. They look like greyhounds; you know they're healthy, but they look like they're starving to death, and I feel impelled to offer them a piece of fruit. I find them esthetically unpleasant. When I get back home I'm going to invest in a used woman.

Eric and I then play a game of pool.

Exhausted by all this activity, I drag myself back to Sunspot and crawl into bed, content in my full day, wondering what surprises the next morning will bring.

DEAR RB

PETER BERGGREN((Davistown Schoolhouse Road, Orford, N.H. 03777)): Concerning your comments on the IDA Evaluation project ((evaluation of gamesmastering)) that Ron Kelly is heading up in our region, I think a new opinion is needed.

First of all, the word "acceptable" was put in quotes so that it would be clear that the word was being used only in terms that were elucidated in the letter. In other words, "acceptable" as defined by IDA.

Secondly, it is only suggested that games be insured; the letter I received made no mention of any maximum number of gamezines either, so neither of those criteria could keep someone off the list.

Now, to the meat of my argument. I think the criteria are fine the way they stand. What do you suggest, that the standards be set to meet existing conditions so that everyone gets on the list? What would that prove? I say to Hell with those who can't meet the standards, let them improve! The whole idea of the program is to provide some incentive (I assume) to improve publishing standards. If you can't meet the standards, then shape up or ship out!

((First of all, the word "acceptable" is always used in a subjective context. There is no way acceptability can be objectively measured. This, however, is nitpicking.

((Second, I made an error in my comments. I confused Lew Pulsipher's cockamamy suggested standards with IDA.

((At heart, however, the standards are simply too tough for almost anyone. The only North Americans I know of personally who could meet the standards set by IDA are John Leeder and John Boardman (who are fifth cousins. Does it run in the family?). 2½% of all NA gms being rated as acceptable is a little hard to take. It doesn't really tell anyone anything.

((Personally, I don't give a good goddamn about the IDA Evaluations Group. And neither will anyone else, unless they use some sort of standards that permit any gamesmaster a chance to be considered good.

((What might be done is this: First of all, include the names of the people who meet the current standards. Those are professional standards, and a mediocre typists will have more gamesmastering errors than permitted by the standards, simply through typos.

((Next, rate the top 30%(or pick your own percentage) as acceptable. No matter what. If more than 30% of the gamesmasters meet the top standards for a year, then you can drop the regular 30% criterion. Because, as it is, the only time someone who depends on your list is going to enter a game is when Boardman and Leeder have openings. This is realistic?))

DOUG RBIF((67 Grosvenor Road, Kenmore, N.Y. 14223; 7 Nov. 1975)) David Hertz' linear separator at the bottom of page 13 of TMG # 41 confirms my belief that linear separators are now the rage of the hobby. Perhaps you could offer, say, two free linear separators with entry into one of your games. I'm positive you'll soon be flooded with entries, if my mail is any indication. Typical is a letter I received from a Phineas L. (he wants to remain anonymous) from Piscataway, N.J., who writes: "Dear Doug, you know I've always wanted to become a well-respected big-time publisher, but I'm afraid my poor linear separators would get me laughed right out of the hobby. I'd be most grateful if you might let me know of some zine which would print submitted separators, so I could judge the response. Thank you for your time. Very truly yours..." Certainly a publisher of your status receives literally dozens of requests of this nature, and I think you would be amiss in not striking while the bull's horns are hot, so to speak.

((Well...))

JOHN RUBINS ((161 Berhardt Drive, Snyder, N.Y. 14226; 12 Nov. 1975)): Please send some information about D&D.

ALAN CARLSON ((8633 Harrison Circle, Minneapolis, Minn. 55437; 8 Nov.1975)): Lately a lot of space in Diplomacy magazines has been devoted to D&D. (POICE-BISM? ((Bruce Schlickbernd's zine)) 21 was 1/2 D&D. That's one reason I just terminated my sub.) Yet I believe the majority of Diplomacy players do not play D&D. So what I am leading up to is this: I suggest that you ask your readers if they mind having D&D in TMG. Or how much they don't mind.

It's my opinion that separate zines should be started for D&D articles, and those articles should not be put in Diplomacy zines. You are pretty good about holding it down, it is Schlickbernd who got carried away.

((Amateur publishing is about the last field in which someone can say whatever he likes, whenever he likes, wherever he likes. The trouble arises when the publisher-editor begins to please his audience too much; his readers then believe that this is the natural state of things. In actuality, many editors in Diplomacy (and most in New York) put whatever they like in their zine. So what would the average reader have me do, in the face of the two letters above? Increase the D&D material? Decrease it? Or have me do whatever I please.

((All this ties in with the poll in this issue. I have decided on the changes I am going to make in this zine. The purpose of the poll is to give me an idea of how many copies I can expect to mail out after the changeover. If projected circulation looks to drop below 40, the changes will not be made.

((But, usually, I (and most other publishers) will continue to do what I (and they) please. If the readers enjoy it, that's nice. If not, we'll probably please ourselves.

NOEISMESHAMBANDSCANDALINTHEFAMILYINJAMAICAONCETHEREWASAFAMILYANOMMAANDAPOPPAANDA

THE TADEK JARSKI MEMORIAL DEPARTMENT

from MARILYN LURIC: Abe Schwartz was walking down the street, and he happened to look in the window of a travel agency. There was this huge sign that read:

TRIP TO ISRAEL FOR \$37

He paused to look at it. "I always wanted to go to the Holy Land," he told himself, "And I have the money right here in my pocket, I just was paid." Without a moment's further hesitation, he walked into the agency.

"I see you have a trip to Israel for \$37. Here's my \$37."

"That's fine," said the travel agent, "And let's seal the bargain with a drink." From one bottle he poured a drink, and from the other bottle he poured another drink, explaining "It's my kidneys."

"Oy!" said Abe, and drank. Almost instantly he was asleep.

The next thing he knew he was awake and in a large rowboat. He and 15 other men were chained to the oars. A drummer stood in the stern, beating a drum. Boom! And the 16 men stroked water. Boom! And they backed the oars. Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!...

After 40 days and 40 nights, they finally reached the coast of Israel. As they were unchained the men rushed up the shore and kissed the ground. When Abe was unshackled he did the same, then turned to the man next to him and said "How much do you think we should tip the drummer?"

from PAUL NOVAK: Why do Italian tanks have rear view mirrors? So they can watch the war.

from ME: A Jew in Hong Kong found himself there on the Sabbath. Wandering the streets sadly, he suddenly saw a synagogue. He rushed in.

Inside were a double-minyan of Chinamen davening. He sat down and began to pray.

After the services, he went up to one of the Chinese Jews. "I never expected to find a synagogue in Hong Kong," he said.

The Chinaman stared at him. "Are you Jewish?"

"Yes."

"That's funny. You don't look it."

THE CONSPIRATORS

SYNOPSIS: Ray and Bob, the most noteworthy of the New York Conspiratori, disdain to use preference lists, are choosing two of New York's many Diplomacy groupies by random method.

BOB I've at length achieved a capture!
This is Janet. Rapture, rapture!

RAY To me Belinda Gri has granted,
Just the very girl I wanted.

JANET Thank you, good conspiratori,
You may place strictest reliance
Through the courses of this story
Upon our alliance.
No evidence of defiance,
No events provocatory,
Once we begin our affiance,
Good conspiratori,
Tra la la, et c.

BELINDA Good and brave conspiratori,
Do not treat us oh, so lightly:
We both might have been quite hoary
Or, perhaps, unsightly.
You'll find we can labor might'ly
At small tasks publicatory,
Make sure that you hold us tightly,
Good conspiratori,
Tra la la, et c.

CHORUS Thank you good conspiratori,
OF You may place strictest reliance, et c.

GROUPIES Gri on this has bought the patents,
Let us bow to Gri's decree.
We refuse to be combattants.
From this session hurry we!

THEY ALL DANCE OFF TWO BY TWO—JANET WITH BOB, BELINDA WITH RAY.

SCENE TWO

FLOURISH. A CAR PULLS UP AT AN UPPER-CLASS APARTMENT COMPLEX IN THE WEST 60S FROM WHICH ENTER THE EDITOR OF NOWHERE, HIS TYPESETTER PEGGY, THEIR DAUGHTER MARIE, AND THE EDITOR'S PUPPET, DOUGLAS. ALL ARE DRESSED IN RIDICULOUS FASHIONS.

EDITOR From South California's air,
Comes the Editor of NOWHERE!

PEGGY And the girl who errors slaughters—

MARIE And the singular of their daughters.

DOUGLAS And his servile puppet true:
To the Big Apple we flew.

ALL And if ever we get back
To California,
We will never take an Amtrak,
Any more than you!

* this is pronounced, in a slo-
venly fashion: "Morenya".

EDITOR Neither the greatest of that state fair,
The wondrous editor of NOWHERE,

PEGGY Nor his fine typesetter true,

MARIE You may add their daughter too,

DOUGLAS Nor his puppet (I am he),
Will return here, nosirree!

ALL If ever we get back, et c.

EDITOR: At last we have arrived at our destination. This is New York City, and it is here that the Secret Master of New York (for so, by astrology and numerology and phrenology and divine revelation and other scientific methods have I divined it) resides. As a Diplomacy publisher since 1956 I regret I am unable to bring my houserules to show to this town and thus overawe them. But as my houserules are so large, I could not bring them without exceeding the weight limit for four people. No matter. Where is my puppet?

DOUGLAS, COMING FORWARD: Your Wondrousness, I am here.

EDITOR: Why don't you kneel before me? YOU'RE OUT TO WRECK THE HOBBY! You'll never do it! I'll stop you! I've uncovered your insidious plot! Aargh!!

PEGGY: But it's such a little thing.

EDITOR: You're right. I'll let it pass this time.

MARIE: Papa is right. How presumptuous!

EDITOR: Of course I'm right. But I'm a kindhearted, forgiving person, so we'll ignore it. Be so good as to go to the desk and inform the Master of New York, that His Wondrousness, the Editor of NOWHERE, Curator of the Confederate Rating System, Rightful Ruler of Diplomacy, Speaker to God is—

PEGGY: And family.

EDITOR: Oh, yes, and family, have arrived in New York and demand that he see us, his refusal being proof he is trying to take over the Hobby. DOUGLAS NODS AND EXITS. And now, my dear—(aside to Peggy) Shall I tell her? Yes. (Aloud to Marie)— And now my dear, prepare for a magnificent surprise. It is my agreeable duty to reveal to you a secret which should make you the happiest girl in New York.

MARIE: A secret? SHE ACTIVATES A CASSETTE DECK

PEGGY: A secret which it has been necessary to preserve since 1974, almost eighteen years.

((What can this secret be? Who can the Master of New York be? How can anyone interested in reading this be? Back here next issue be, and find out.))

STILL DO MINJAMAICAASITYPETHISLISTENINGTORA/ELSBOLEROITISTHE30THOFDECEMBERAND

Due to an incredibly full schedule, this space will not be filled.

GAMES

First: I'm taking over an orphaned game from Mike Friedman's GINNUNGAGAP. All players will get free subscriptions to TMG. I hope you enjoy it here. The game is 1975 EP. The positions following Fall 1901 are:

AUSTRIA(Robert Königsberg): F Gre, A Ser, A Bud,
 ENGLAND(Scott Uhrick): F Bar, A Nwy, F Nth
 FRANCE(Bruce Chamberlain): F Por, A Bur, A Bel
 GERMANY(Richard Meyer): A Mun, A Hol, F Swe
 ITALY(Douglas Hollingsworth): F Tun, A Tri, A Tyr
 RUSSIA(Charles Spiegel): F Bot, A Gal, A Rum, F Sev
 TURKEY(Howard Markowitz): A Bul, F Bla, A Con

For Winter 1901:

AUSTRIA: Owns Bud, Vie, Ser, Gre; may build one unit.
 ENGLAND: Owns Lon, Edi, Liv, Nwy; may build one unit.
 FRANCE: Bre, Par, Mar, Por, Bel; may build two units.
 GERMANY: Owns Ber, kie, Mun, Hol, Den; may build two units.
 ITALY: Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun, Tri; may build two units.
 RUSSIA: Owns Mo's, War, St.P, Sev, Rum; may build one unit.
 TURKEY: Owns Ank, Con, Smy, Bul; may build one unit.

Addresses of the players are:

Howard Markowitz: 63 Halyard Road, North Woodmere, N.Y. 11581
 Douglas Hollingsworth: 37 Sanford Street, Bangor, Me. 04401
 Bruce Chamberlain: 248 Ridgewood, East Hartford, Conn. 06118
 Robert Königsberg: 33 Causeway, Lawrence, N.Y. 11559
 ETN-3 Scott Uhrick: USS Towers, DDg-9 OED FPO San Francisco, Ca. 96601
 Richard Meyer: 17124 Lutz Road, Ossian, Ind. 46777
 Charles Spiegel: 4517 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19143

I have most of the Winter 1901 builds on hand. The absolute deadline for changes and new builds is noon, Friday 23 Jan. 1975. Thanks to DNYMPA for handling the transfer.

ANDNOWFORTHEREGULARGAMESNOTTHATTHEYREVERYREGULARMINDYOUITSJUSTTHATTHEYAREALREA

1975 J

DAMN!!!

LIMBO

I have the Fall 1903 moves all adjudicated, but I do not have the supply center chart at home. Therefore this messhuggenah game is once again postponed until I get back to college. Fall 1903 deadline is now 23 Jan. 1975.

*

1973 CQf (Anonmyity)

GERMANY MISSES

Winter 1911

FRANCE: Builds A Mar.
 TURKEY: No moves.

GERMANY: NMR

Spring 1912 moves are due by noon, Friday, 23 Jan. 1975

XXXXXXX

Just got a postcard from Dr. Beyerlein today, assigning a Boardman Number for the new game, MG X. It is now 1975IN. In addition, Paul Novak will be at 8004 Harrison Avenue, Munster, Ind. 47906 until 12 Jan., when he heads back to college.

Hello, this is Scott Rosenberg filling in for a few moments. I am an egotist.

1974 IJ

RUSSIAN VICTORY ASKED

SPRING 1906

AUSTRIA(Jeffrey Topper):

A Mar H

ENGLAND(Paul Thomas):

F Lon S FRENCH F Eng-Nth

F Edi S FRENCH F Cly-Nrg

FRANCE(Ronald M. Kelly) NMR

F Nat, F Cly, F Wal, F Eng, A Bel,

A Hol all Hold

GERMANY(Dennis Klein):

A Kie Hopes for the best but odds
are it will not Hold(retreats-Ruh,
ann.)

ITALY(John Hendry):

F Ion-Adr

F Nap-Apu

F Rom-Nap

A Ven-Tri(retreats-Pie,Tus,Rom,ann)

TURKEY(Mike Friedman):

A Con-Bul

A Ser S F Nwy(left Coast)

A Gre-Eng

F Alb S F Aeg-Ion

F Aeg-Ion

1-86, Pasadena, Ca. ~~911-26~~ please standby for France? Fall 1906 moves are due by noon, Friday, 23 Jan. 1976.

THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE

c/o Robert Bryan Lipton

Box 1962, Lafayette College

Easton, Pa. 18042

Tel 215-252-9170

PLEASE SEND TO:

Walter Buchanan t
R.R.#3
Lebanon, Ind. 46052

RUSSIA(Matt Diller):

F Bla-Con

A Tyr-Ven

A Tri S A Tyr-Ven

A Vie-Tyr

A Mun & A Ber S A Den=Kie

A War-Sil

A Mos-Ukr

F Nth S ENGLISH F Lon

F St.P(nc)-Bar

F Nwy S F Nrg

F Nrg S F Nth

A Den-Kie

A concession to Russia has been proposed. Please vote with your Fall moves. No vote received will count as abstention; one negative vote will defeat the movement. COAS:

Michael Friedman is at 76 Halyard Road, North Woodmere, N.Y. 11581.

John Hendry is at 17 Price Road, Peabody, Mass. 01960.

Dennis Klein is at Box 912, Knox College, Ill. 61401.

And will our regular standby for this game, Eric Verheiden, CALTECH



- You don't have to worry about your sub.
- This is your last issue. Unless you resubscribe.
- You don't get a Smoky Dragon Number this issue.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL, EVEN TO THE USPS AND CPO!!