

Beginning immediately, this magazine is on a four-week schedule. This new schedule will be on the following guidelines: an issue will be published by, say, Sunday May 11th. The deadline will be set for 23 days afterwards, 3 June (in my case, 4 June). By Friday my gamesmasters will deliver the completed game reports to me; I will run off the issue by 8 June, and begin the cycle again.

A MIXUMAXU GAZETTE
QUANTITY PUBLICATION
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Why do this? The reason is that the present schedule simply does not work. Bob

Sacks has been ill for the last three issues and has been handing in games that are adjudicated by not stencilled. This has the natural problem that, with Bob's strange notation, the usual errors likely in transcriptions are multiplied.

The final straw came when I did TMG #80. When I spoke with Bob on Thursday, he told me he was feeling ill, that he had worked overtime, and that he would be handing me only the adjudications. When I saw him on Friday and received the adjudications, he was as healthy and nasty as ever. However, by the time I got home and began typing his stencils, I found myself coming down with something, so that by Saturday I sounded like a bullfrog.

Naturally I was mad as anything. I called up Bob and told him that the situation was less than useless; what with the additional errors caused by a game filtering through two people and the fact that going downtown to meet him to pick up the moves was just about negating any time saved by having Bob as a gamesmaster, unless he could guarantee to get the games stencilled, I would have to drop him as a gamesmaster.

Bob and I discussed the matter and the fact that a lot of players got their moves in at the last minute. Perhaps if the deadlines were extended, players would be able to do better.

Now, I myself do not believe this would work. There are, in my estimation, two classes of players (those who divide players into two classes and those who don't, but...): those who send in a set of moves as soon as they receive their issues, and those who send in moves so they will arrive "in time for the deadline," which often translates as the day after the issue is mailed. Those who send out their moves as soon as they receive their issues can stand a two-week deadline; the others would not be



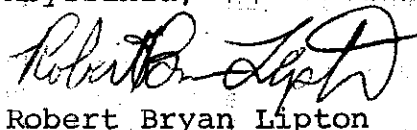
able to their their moves in consistently if the deadlines were six months long.

Extending the deadline, however, would enable us to put in a longer turnabout period for the game masters. It will give Bob Sacks and Paul Stevens another evening to type up the stencils; when Bob has to type up two stencils, that is a great benefit.

I don't particularly want to shift from my three-week schedule; however, I do not have as much free time as I used to, which is one reason to do so; my staff (sounds silly, but it's accurate) can use the time; and the Post Office is getting even worse (Bill Newell ordered a full set of back publications a few months ago, and I mailed them out third class; I had to replace a large section which the Post Office apparently mangled open, and may have to send another group which was screwed up).

So, the net result is that we switch to a 4-week schedule. Let's see if we can live with this.

Abyssinia,



Robert Bryan Lipton

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TOKA THE TOWN

1: THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE is a quadriweekly (I suppose that's the word) publication of postal Diplomacy and whatnot, edited, published and semi-gamesmastered by Robert Bryan Lipton, 556 Green Place, Woodmere, NY 11598 U.S.A., telephone (516) 374-4723. Subscriptions are 9 issues for \$2 in the U.S., Canada and overseas by printed matter; otherwise the rates are 9 issues for \$4.50. Articles, stories and artwork are welcome and, if published, will fetch their originators' \$2 worth of sub credit per printed page.

Assisting with the gamesmastering are Robert Sacks, Apt. 5-V, 4861 Broadway, NYC, NY 10034, tel (212) 942-3572. Also gamesmastering is Paul Stevens, 149 Sullivan, NYC NY 10012.

The Mixumaxu Gazette is a DNYMPA magazine. All games herein are protected by Duh New York Mafia Protective Association.

2: IDA-NA ELECTION results are in and it is theoretically important, although reports are that the first stupid act has been committed, what with the Council deciding that Ray Heuer is no longer Orphan Games Project Director (at least the bill is before the Council). Let's form a kangaroo court and declare Cal White no longer Boardman Numbers Custodian, shall we? Anyway, the offices and holders are:

- President: Bob Hartwig Jr.
- Treasurer: Doug Beyerlein
- Ombudsman: David Bunke
- Periodicals Editor: Konrad Baumeister
- US Representative: Andy Cook
- Canadian Representative: Cal White

Given that Konrad Baumeister is a Nazi (see recent letters in *Gravestark* and *Empire*, and Jerry Jones has a slight tendency for declaring himself Organization Officer without the organization knowing about it, it should be an interesting circus.

Dear Bob



JOHN LEEDER [1211 5th Street NW, Calgary, Alta. CANADA T2M 3B6: 3/7/78]
No, I'm not going to go quietly. It is, of course, your prerogative as to which zines you get and which you don't. You make your own decisions. However, I think your reasons for cutting "trade" with *Runestone* [John's zine], as outlined in your editorial, are bad ones.

Your editorial outlined why you agreed with my institution of reciprocal subscriptions (mis-describing the system in the bargain); then outlined some injustices you had suffered at the hands of Don Wileman (making a grossly unfair generalization about Canadians at the same time); then outlined why the reciprocal subscription system is untrue to certain conventions of SF fandom (irrelevant, since this hobby is not SF fandom); then announced you had cut "trade" with me as well as with Don. I fail to see the clear thread of logic running through all of this.

Let's look at the set-up itself. You charge what you feel is fair for your zine's subscriptions. I charge what I feel is fair for mine. You subscribe to my zine. I subscribe to yours. To save each other postage and bother, instead of sending each other physical funds, we do it on paper. I credit you with a certain amount. You credit me with an equivalent amount. Due to size and frequency differential, one sub runs out sooner than another. In this case it was yours. What can you find unfair in this?

I won't comment on the Wileman matter; I'm not sure I understand it completely. Do you require my services as CDO Ombudsman?

Your comments about Canadians requiring committees to get things done is simply gratuitous and nonsensical. You overlooked the fact that Canada's largest zine (*Runestone*), and its most respected (*Fol Si Fie*) are produced by individuals, as are most of the smaller zines. If there is a trend towards multi-editor zines in Canada it is because *Paroxysm* was so successful in its day, as was *Janus*, thereby spawning imitators. (Notice that both I and Smythe use mutual-subscription systems! For whatever it's worth...)

Your reasons for disliking reciprocal subs are, you state, "bookkeeping" and "fannishness." Your descriptions involved show that you misunderstand the mechanics of the system. You don't have to "keep constant track of the sub totals;" just treat me like any other subscriber, letting me know when my sub runs out, at which time I will either give you more *Runestone* credit, or send you money, whichever is appropriate. As a matter of fact, you have to do this anyway, since I'm not cancelling my sub to TMG even if you cancel yours to *Runestone*. So where is the extra effort?

"Fannishness..." You might as well face the fact, Bob, that the postal Diplomacy Hobby as a whole is not "fannish." The SF-oriented types are a subgroup -- a pleasant subgroup to be sure -- but you're *not* the entire hobby. The Postal Diplomacy Hobby has developed its own traditions and is developing others as conditions change. To expect to impose SF traditions on the postal Dip hobby is futile and unrealistic. I hope you reconsider, because by placing yourself outside the hobby mainstream, you're only harming yourself.

To brass tacks. At the end of July, I credited you with \$2 towards a *Runestone* sub. assuming you would either do the same for me or notify me. I therefore assume I have a few issues left on my sub; you'll let me know, right?

My records indicate that your current sub credit is \$2.87. If you still wish to cancel your sub, let me know with the next TMG mailing and I'll remit the balance. No hard feelings, but I think you just misunderstand the system, so I'll give you time to consider.

[To reiterate, I agree that in your case the mutual sub system is justified; however, I wish to maintain either all trades or all subscription at the bookkeeping I would have to do if I shifted to all subs is not something I wish to do.

[To save space, I shall readily admit all your points save one. I will even agree with you that, to a large extent, this hobby has moved away from many sf traditions. However, I have not. I am glad to spend the couple of hundred dollars each year that this hobby costs me; more than once my relatives have berated me for wasting my time and money on this hobby when it is so unprofitable. Since I am spending my money, I feel free to spend it in the manner in which I like.

[And, despite your comments on the general movement on the hobby, I am adamant in that I will not move. This, I feel, is a matter of principle. If I am producing this magazine because it is what I wish to do, my budgeting of time and money should be as I wish it to be. Frankly, I wish to bulwark, where possible, certain fannish traditions. If you do not, fine. I admit that is your perfect right.

[The point is, one of the hidden monetary assets in producing a zine is the trade systems set up. It is a bonus to production that, because I am producing a zine, I can get copies of other zines for little more than the cost of postage, sent out at regular intervals.

[So, I will stick to the trade system. You may stick to the mutual subscription system. Goodbye, and no hard feelings. When my sub to *Runestone* runs out, it will not be renewed.

[As to your final question, as to how many issues you have left on your "subscription," the answer is: none. Assuming that the system were initiated in late July, your first issue under the "system" was #69; therefore, your subscription ran out with #77. You got, therefore, #78 & #79 free. No charge for them, as I was trading with you (didn't you notice that the little coding at the top of the mailing label said "trade"? Very strange, your not noticing it.

[You will, of course, get this issue because your letter appears in it. Another tradition from sf fandom that I maintain.]

PAUL NOVAK [Hulme 2-A, Escondido Village, Stanford, Ca. 94305: 18 March 1978]. I believe players in games should have a voice in deciding whether or not a game should be transferred to a guest gm. I join games in which I consider the gm to be responsible. I realize that you would not allow a gm in TMG that you consider not up to your standards. But players have different standards than you. Perhaps a player joins a game to be gmed by you because you will call if he NMRs. If the guest gm does not,

shouldn't the players have something to say? The zine is run for them.

I am not criticizing Paul Stevens or Robert Sacks. I know nothing of Paul and Robert's gaming of the game I am in has been exemplary. I just think that, in the future, players should be given a say if the game is to be transferred from one gm to another in the same zine.

[Until I received your postcard, the question of players caring about being transferred to another gm never occurred to me. Now that you have brought it up, I will be more careful in the future. Okay?]

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BAEDER-MEINHOF GO RIOTING ON BY LEW WOLKOFF

(tune: "The Caissons Go Rolling Along")

Blow up stores; stop the mails;
Get arrested; jump your bail.
Baeder-Meinhoff goes rioting on.

Kidnap folks; murder cops;
Reign of Terror never stops.
Baeder-Meinhoff goes rioting on.

For it's Mao! Mao! Mao!
Start the Revolution now!
Shout down bourgeois democracy.

Though we're on the run,
We'll have lots of fun,
And to Hell with ideology!

And to Hell with ideology!

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TOKA THE TOWN

3: D&D fans out there who are interested in joining a D&D APA should consider NYC's APA-DUD, which, unless you can get to the Compleat Strategist, is available only to contributors. I can run off material sent to me on Gestetner stencils; if you wish to see a sample copy, drop either Bob Sacks or myself a line.

4: THE SLOBINPOLIT ZHURNAL keeps growing. Nowadays it is averaging between 80 and 110 pages an issue. Incredible what crazy people will do. If you're interested in seeing a copy, drop me a line and about 75¢ in postage and I'll send you a copy of my next issue (#69) in a couple of months. Or, if you are interested in getting it long-term, sending a couple of hundred dollars (price is 1¢ a page plus postage) to Raymond Sylvestrine Heuer, 162-10 87th Road, Jamaica, NY 11432 will make him considerably wealthier; and, in gratitude, he might arrange to send you some issues.

ENGLAND (Paul Novak) B A Edi, F Lon, A Lvp. Also has A Fin, A Hal, A Mar, F Nth, F Nwy, A Par, F Spasc, F StPnc, F Swe.

FRANCE (Ron Kelly) Has A Tyr.

GERMANY (David Schwartz) R F Bal, F GoL, A Pru. Has A Bur, A Den, A Mun, A Sil.

ITALY (Paul Thomas) B F Rom. Also has F Aeg, A Boh, A Bul, F Con, A Pie, A Rum, A Tri, A Tyr, A Ven.

RUSSIA (Dick Trtek) R F Arm. Has A Bud, A Gal, F GoB, A Lvn, A Mos, A Vie, A War.

SPRING 1907 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1978

LD - 1977P GM: Robert Sacks Spring 1904

In 1977P & 1977T TMG houserules apply except where LD houserule 11 governs the annihilation of dislodged unordered units.

COA-Eric Verheiden, 200 S Azusa Ave 2, Azusa Ca 91702

AUSTRIA (Roland Wong/Ron Kelly) F Aeg-Bulsc, A Bul-Rum, A Gal-War, A Gre S Aeg-Bulsc, A Rum-Gal, A Tri h.

ENGLAND (Dennis Weight/Eric Verheiden) F Bel-EC, A Hol-Bel, A Kie-Den, F Nth S Bel-EC, A Nwy S Swe, F Swe S Kie-Den.

FRANCE (William Newell Jr) F EC C Pic-Wal/disl/, A Pic-Wal. FFL Par-Tra.

GERMANY (Gus Luckow) F Bal C Den-Ber, A Bur-Ruh, A Den-Ber, A Mos-StP, A Mun S Den-Ber.

ITALY (Gary Knight) A Con-Smy, A Mar-Bur, F Nap-Tyr, F Por-MAO, A Rom h, F Smy-Aeg, A Spa-Gas, A Ven h, F WM S Por-MAO.

RUSSIA (Tom Johnston) A Ukr u/o.

TURKEY (Bill Frank) A Ank S Arm-Smy, A Arm-Smy.

FALL 1904 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1978

LD - 1977T GM: Robert Sacks Fall 1904

COA-Kenneth Peterson, General Delivery, Indianhead Md 20604

ENGLAND (David Ditter) F Bre S EC-MAO, F EC-MAO, F Fin S GER StPsc-GoB, F MAO-Spasc, A Nwy-Swe, F Por S MAO-Spasc.

FRANCE (Kenneth Peterson) A Mar S Spasc, A Par S GER Pic-Bre/nso/, F Spasc S TUR WM-MAO/nso/.

GERMANY (Roland Wong) F Bal S Sil/imp/, A Bur S Pic/otm/, A Kie-Ber, A Pic-Par, F StPsc h.

ITALY (Ronald Brown) A Pie-Mar, A Tyr-Mun.

RUSSIA (James Matt) F Fin R-GoB. A Boh-Mun, F GoB-Swe, A Mun-Ber, A Pru S Mun-Ber, F Rum-Bla, A Sil S Mun-Ber, A War-Lvn.

TURKEY (Steven Graves) F Aeg-Gre, A Apu-Rom, F Ion-Tun, F Rom-Tyr, A Ser-Bud, F Smy-Con, A Tri S Ven h, A Ven h, F WM-GoL.

1904 SUPPLY CENTER CHART WINTER AND SPRING MOVES DUE: 8 PM, 25 APRIL 1978

E: 7/6. H, Bre, Nwy, Swe, Por. Build 1.

F: 3/3. Mar, Par, ~~Por~~, Spa. No Change.

G: 5/7. ~~Bel~~, Kie, Bel, Den, Hol, ~~Mar~~, StP. No Change.

I: 0/2. ~~Rom~~, Ven. OUT.

R: 7/7. Mos, Sev, War, Vie, ~~Bud~~, Rum, Mun, Ber. No Change.

T: 12*/9. H, Bul, Gre, Ser, Tri, Nap, Tun, Bud, Rom, Ven. Build 2.

Possible Game Opening - Parlement (according to Sacks). 7 player diplomatic game. Rules will be released to signed-up paid-up players. In addition to the \$3 gamefee and the maintenance of a sub or trade, there will be a \$5 game deposit (which will be refunded less \$1 for each NMR to a player or standby who completes the position). If your interested, write to Bob Lipton. There will be preference lists used; the parties are: Communist, Socialist, Radical, Center, Conservative, Monarchist, and Nationalist.

3 players out of 5 missed orders. Call for standbys for Italy.

FALL 1907 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1978

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VALINOR - 1976T GM: Robert Sacks Fall 1909

- AUSTRIA (Bryan Ronald) A Bud u/o.
- ENGLAND (Ron Kelly) F Bal S Den-Kie, F Den-Kie, A Lon-Hol, F Nth C Lon-Hol, F Nwy S StPnc, A Swe-Fin.
- FRANCE (Steve McLendon) A Ber R-Sil, A Tyr R-Pie. A Apu h, A Bel S ENG Lon-Hol, F EM S Smy, F GoL-Tyr, F Ion-Aeg, F MAO-WM, A Mun S Pie-Tyr/disl/, F Nap-Ion, A Pie-Tyr, A Sil-Gal, F Smy S Ion-Aeg/disl/, A Ven S Pie-Tyr.
- GERMANY (Margaret Gemignani) A Ber-Mun, F Hol-HB, F Kie-Den.
- RUSSIA (Vane Smith) F Aeg-EM, A Alb-Tri, A Ank S Con-Smy, A Boh S Tyr-Mun, A Con-Smy, F GoB-Bal, F Gre-Ion, A Pru-War, A Ser-Bud, A Tyr-Mun, A Vie S Alb-Tri.

1909 SUPPLY CENTER CHART WINTER 1909 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, 25 APRIL 1978

- A: 1/1. Bud. No Change.
- E: 8/7. H, Nwy, StP, Den, Swe, Hol. Build 1.
- F: 10/12. H, Spa, Por, Bel, Nap, Tun, Ven, Ber, Rom, Smy. Remove 2.
- G: 2/3. Ber, Kie, Mun, Hol. Remove 1.
- R: 13/11. Mos, Sev, War, Rum, Bul, Ser, Con, Ank, Tri, Ber, Vie, Mun, Smy. Build 2.

How many moves are you going to wait to write, Ron? - Peggy

.....
PELLUCIDAR #18 - 1975Dbu GM: Robert Sacks Spring 1911

Draw vote defeated. Call for standbys for England and Italy.

- AUSTRIA (Red Bean) A Afg S Ira-Tur, F Ank-Bla, A Bel-Hol, A Ber h, A Bul h, A Bur h, A Cluj-Vie, A Con-Ank, A Del-Nep, A Fin-Nwy, A Ira-Tur, A Mun-Tyr, A Oms S Ira-Tur, A Ruh h, A Rum-Sev, A Sax S Ber, A Sev-Ira, A Sind-Del, A StP S Oms, A Swe h, F Tri-Adr.
- ENGLAND (William Short) F Bor u/o, F Edi u/o, F Iri u/o, F Joh u/o.
- GERMANY (Gary Peterson) A Bre-Gas, F Den-Nth, F Kie-HB, A Lon-Wal, F Nth-Nwg, A Pic-Bel, F Pos-Bal, A Yor S Lon-Wal.
- ITALY (Mike Konaroff) F AraS u/o, F BoBen u/o, F Ein u/o, F GoAde u/o, F GoS u/o/Annh/, F MAO u/o, F MAOOBB u/o, A Mar u/o, F Mog u/o, F SAO u/o, F SAOOBB u/o, F SomS u/o, A Spa u/o, A Yem u/o, F WMed u/o.
- RUSSIA (David Scott) F Bla-Sev, A Bma-Cal, A Cal-Mad, A Cam S Lao-Tha, F Cel-Jav, A Lao-Tha, A Lvp-Ire, F NAO C Lvp-Ire, F NAOOBB S NAO, F NPa-SPa, F NPaOBB-NPa, F Phi-Schi, F Sai S Schi-GoS, F Schi-GoS, A Sib-Oms, F Spa-Cel, F SPaOBB S NPa-SPa, A Tha-Joh, A Tih-Nep, A Tur-Ira/disl/, F Vla-SoJ.

FALL 1911 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1978

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MG XII - 1976EV GM: Robert Sacks Spring 1908

- AUSTRIA (William Newell Jr) F Tri-Ven, A Tyr S Vie-Boh/disl/, A Vie-Boh/Annh/.
- ENGLAND (Douglas Hollingsworth) A Edi h, F Gas-Spasc, F Iri-NAO, A Lvn S GER Mos, F MAO u/o, A Pic h, F Spasc-Por, A StP S GER Mos, "F WM S Spasc-Por"/nsu//imp/.
- FRANCE (Ron Kelly) F Por u/o.
- GERMANY (David Hansen) A Boh-Vie, A Mar S ENG Spasc/otm/, A Mos S War, A Mun S Pie-Tyr, F Naf h, F Nth-Nwg, A Pie-Tyr, A Sil S War, A Tus S Ven, A Ven h, A War S Mos.
- TURKEY (Dennis Klein) A Ank-Arm, A Apu-Rom, A Bud S GER Boh-Vie, F Con-Aeg, A Gal S GER Boh-Vie, F GoL h, F Nwg h, A Sev-Rum, A Smy-Con, F Tun-Tyr, A Ukr h.

FALL 1908 MOVES DUE: 8 PM, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1978

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Has anyone noticed the resemblance between the music for Star Wars & Lawrence of Arabia?

AUSTRIA [Tom Kissner] A Pie-Mar; F Lyo S A Pie-Mar; A Ven-Rom; A Nap S A Ven-Rom; A Tri-Tyr; A Gal S **TURKISH** A War; F Adr H. Has Bud, Gre, Mar, Rom, Ser, Tri, ~~Tyr~~, Ven, Vie (8). May build one.

ENGLAND [Bert van den Boogaard] A StP-Mos; F Bot-Swe; A Lon-Bre; F Eng C A Lon-Bre; F Gas-Spa(nc); F Mid S F Gas-Spa(nc); F Iri doesn't care what the Turkish think of their army buildup. Has Bre, Edi, Lvp, Lon, Nwy, StP, Swe(7). Even.

FRANCE [Eric P. Verheiden] A Par-Bre(ann); A Por S **ITALIAN** F Spa(sc). Has ~~Par~~, Por(1). Even.

GERMANY [Dennis Klein] A Sil H; A Lvn H; F Bal S A Lvn; A Pic-Par; A Bur S A Pic-Par; A Mun H. Has Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Par(7). May build one.

ITALY [Civil Disorder] A Mar ann; F Rom ann; F Tun, F Spa(sc) all H. Has ~~Mar~~, ~~Mar~~, ~~Rom~~, Spa (1). Must remove one.

RUSSIA [David Schwartz] Owns ~~War~~(0). OUT

TURKEY [Mark L. Berch] F Tyr-Wes; F Tun S F Tyr-Wes; F Bul(ec)-Bla; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; A War S A Sev-Mos; F Eas-Ion. Owns Ank, Bul, Con, Mos, Rum, Sev, Smy, Tun, Tun(9). May build two.

ANKARA: We meant to insult the gamesmaster's headline for this game; not the English Army Buildup.

GAMESMASTER: Thank you all for the welcome to this game.

WINTER 1905 ADJUSTMENTS ARE DUE BY NOON, TUESDAY 25 APRIL 1978.

1978 AA

GM: Robert Lipton

WINTER 1901

AUSTRIA [Karl Skutsch] B A Bud. Has A Bud, F Gre, A Ser, A Vie.

ENGLAND [C.A. Beam] Owns F Nth, A Yor, F Bar.

FRANCE [August InKow] B F Mar, F Bre. Owns F Mar, F Bre, F Por, A Spa, A Pie.

GERMANY [Paul Rauterberg] B F Kie, A Mun. Has F Kie, A Mun, F Den, A Hol, A Tyr.

ITALY [Paul E. Boymel] B A Rom, F Nap. Has A Rom, F Nap, A Tri, A Ven, F Tun.

RUSSIA [Randy Christopher] B A War, F StP (coast not specified). Has A War, A Gal, A Ukr, F Rum & F Swe.

TURKEY [John Christopher] B F Smy. Has F Smy, A Bul, F Bla, A Con.

VOICE OF THE MAD BERLINER: to those it may concern, we apologize for the inability of our armed forces in Denmark and Tyrolia to move as anticipated. Evidently there was a considerable mess-up in communications. We are declaring war upon the US Postal Service for its incompetence, and we hope that everything is straightened out to the satisfaction of us all.

The question of whether Randy and John Christophers are related. Please answer, one of you. **SPRING 1902 MOVES ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM, THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978.**

AUSTRIA [Paul E. Boymel] A Gal-Rum; A Ser S A Gal-Rum; F Alb-Gre. Owns Bud, Gre, Ser, Tri, Vie(5). May build two.

ENGLAND [Brian C. Gister] A Yor-Nwy' F Nth C A Yor-Nwy; F Eng-Bel. Owns Bel, Edi, Lvp, Lon, Nwy(5). May build two.

FRANCE [Bill Bowers] F Mid-Por; A Bur-Mun; A Mar-Spa. Owns Bre, Mar, Mun, Par, Por, Spa (6). May build three.

GERMANY [William C. Newell Jr.] F Den-Swe; A Kie-Hol; A Sil-Ber. Owns Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, ~~Mun~~(4). May build one.

ITALY [Randy T. Christopher] A Ven-Apu; A Apu-Tun; F Ion C A Apu-Tun. Owns Nap. Rom, Tun, Ven(4). May build one.

RUSSIA [H. Gary Knight] F Rum H; F Bot-Swe; A Pru-Ber; A War-Sil. Owns Mos, Rum, StP, Sev, War(5). May build one.

TURKEY [Paul H. Evans] A Bul S RUSSIAN F Rum H; A Ank-Con; F Con-Aeg. Owns Ank, Bul, Con, Smy(4). May build one.

WINTER 1901 ADJUSTMENTS ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM, THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978.

1976 EU

GM: Robert Lipton

WINTER 1905

ENGLAND [Dennis Klein] Has A Edi, F Nth, F Nrg, A Den.

FRANCE [John Michalski] B F Bre, A Par. Has F Bre, A Par, F Spa(sc), F Por, A Mar, A Tyr, F Rom, A Ruh, A Wal.

GERMANY [Ronald M. Kelly] Has A Pru, A War, A Ber & F Kie.

ITALY [Jerry Rogowski] R E Tun. Has A Ven, F Tyr, F Nap.

RUSSIA [Daniel Seth Gelber] NMR! GM removes F Bal. Has A Vie, A Swe, A Mar A Gal.

TURKEY [Daniel Palter] Builds A Ank, F Con, F Smy. Has A Ank, F Con, F Smy, A Bud, A Tri, F Adr, F Ion, F Bla, A Sev, A Rum.

Spring was separated by player request. SPRING 1905 MOVES ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM, THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978. Will Ronald de Bracmoor, 5219 A Murdoch, St. Louis, Mo. 63109 please submit standby moves for Russia?

1977 KK

GM: Lipton

See other games for deadline

SPRING 1903

AUSTRIA [Dennis Klein] A Tyr-Boh; A Bud H; A Ser-Bul; A Tri-Ser

ENG:AND [David Lagerson] F Nrg-Bar; F Iri-Mid; F Eng S F Iri-Mid; F Nwy spits on the Russians.

FRANCE [Vane G. Ssith] F Mid-Wes; A Bre-Gas; A Gas-Spa; A Mar H.

GERMANY [Zane Parks] A Mun-Sil; A Ber-Pru; A Kie-Lvn; A Par S A Bel-Bur; A Swe-Fin; A Bur-Mun; A Bel-Bur; F Bal C A Kie-Lvn

ITALY [William C. Newell Jr.] A Ven-Pie; F Ion-Aeg; A Rom-Ven; A Gre S AUSTRIAN A Ser-Bul; F Lyo-Spa(sc)

RUSSIA [Paul Stevens] A Mos-StP; A Rum S F Arm-Sev; A Arm-Sev; A Sev-Ukr

TURKEY [Thomas G. Bannon] A Bul S ITALIAN A Gre-Ser; F Aeg S A Bul; A Con-Ank; F Bla S A Con-Ank.

1977 HR

GM: Robert Lipton

WINTER 1902

AUSTRIA [Donald Matous] Ann F Apu; Builds A Vie. Has A Vie, A Tri, A Bud & A Ser.

ENGLAND [David L. Pierce] Has A Bel, F Eng, F Nth, F Hol, F Wal.

FRANCE [Ronald M. Kelly] Has A Pic, A Bur, F Gas, F Spa(sc) & A Mar.

GERMANY [Dennis Klein] Remove A Bur. Has A Ruh, A Den, F Bal & F Kie.

ITALY [Thomas Slaughter Jr.] A Gre r-Alb; R F Apu . Has A Alb, F Tyr, A Ven.

RUSSIA [Mark Traylor] B F StP(sc), A Sev. Has F StP(sc), A Sev, F Swe, A Nwy, A Bul, A Rum, F Bla, F Arm.

TURKEY [Frank W. Lange] Has A Ank, F Con, F Aeg & A Gre.

SPRING 1903 MOVES ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM, THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978

1977 U

GM: Robert Lipton

SPRING 1904

AUSTRIA [John McElvaney] A Ven S FRENCH A Pie-Tus; F Tri-Alb; F Ion-Tyr; A Vie-Bud; A Tyr-Vie; A Gre-Bul; A Ser S A Gre-Bul; A Smy-Con

ENGLAND [Bill Bowers] A Edi-Lvp; A Lon-Wal; F Bel-Eng

FRANCE [Allen Beals] F Por-Mid; F Lyo S A Pie-Tus; A Pie-Tus; F Eng-Bel Retreats-Pic, ann); A Bur S F Eng-Bel

GERMANY [W. Christian Youngquist] A Ruh-Bur; A Den-Kie; A Ber-Mun; F Hol-Bel; F Nth S ENGLISH F Bel-Eng

ITALY [Ronald Truckman] A Tus-Rom; A Rom-Nap; F Tyr S A Rom-Nap

RUSSIA [David Wan] A War-Gal; A Ukr-Rum; A Sev-Ank; F Bla C A Sev-Ank; F Con S A Sev-Ank; A Fin S A Nwy; A Nwy & F Bal S F Bot-Swe; F Bot-Swe

FALL 1904 MOVES ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM, THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978.

1977 KL

GM: Robert Lipton

WINTER 1902

AUSTRIA [Zane Parks] Has A Vie, A Bud, A Tri, A Bul, F Gre.

ENGLAND [Paul E. Boynell] B A Lon. Has A Lon. A Yor, F Nth, F Hel, F Den.

FRANCE [Paul Stevens] B F Mar. Has F Mar, A Bel, A Pic, F Eng, F Spa(sc) & A Bur

GERMANY [Dennis Klein] Has A Kie, F Hol, A Ruh & A Mun

ITALY [Thomas G. Bannon] Has A Tyr, A Ven, F Eas & F Ion

RUSSIA [Paul G. Rauterberg] Builds A Sev, A War. Has A Sev, A War, F Swe, B F Bla, F Ank, A Arm & A Boh

TURKEY [Laurence Lurio] Removes F Smy. Has A Con, F Aeg.

VOICE OF THE SCREAMING COSSACK HORDES: The Russian people thirst for the blood of the treacherous Austrians. Austria shall pay for its temerity with its very life. Its existence as an independent entity is ended. So it is decreed.

SPRING 1902 MOVES ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1978

ABCSF

Ballantine is finally coming out with *The Best of L. Sprague Decamp*, which it promised us starting two years ago. At the moment, only the hardcover, SF Book Club edition is out. There is an introduction by Poul Anderson, which makes sense to those of us who recognize Anderson as one of the best hard-sf writers (*Tau 0*), humorous sf writers (*The High Crusade* and, in collaboration with Gordon Dickson, *Earthman's Burden*) and fantasy writers (*Three Hearts & Three Lions*). All this is, of course, frill, as is the fine cover illo by Corben, showing L. Sprague DeCamp as Mr. Rivers in "A Gun for Dinosaur." The meat is, of course, the stories; and, while I may quibble over the inclusion of one or two (DeCamp's first published story, "Hyperpilosity," is included, and it is pretty horrid), there are stories that are the top in sf; "The Inspector's Teeth," from the Krishna stories; "A Gun for Dinosaur," which DeCamp would class as a fantasy, about a guided shooting tour in the earth's past and the marvellous "Two Yards of Dragon Hide."

As a bonus, there is a story here that is usually impossible to find, unless you can find 1950s sf zines, one of the few non-humorous stories that DeCamp has ever written, "Judgement Day." Also included is DeCamp's most famous article "Language for Time Travelers," from 1939, and totally undated.

There is, of course, some disputation over what should go into a "Best of..." collection; for an article, I would have chosen the less-well-known "Get Down and Get Under," about the evolution of tanks; but since the book is a science fiction collection, "Language for Time Travelers" makes more sense; I would also have included "Impractical Joke" and "The Wisdom of the East," but this is a point on which there can be disagreement. The book, however, is as fine a collection as has come out this year. When it hits the stands in paperback, buy a copy.

A book to avoid, is "The Necronimcon;" this is nothing but an average book on magic, which has a few key Lovecraftian phrases tossed in, for \$30. A true rip-off; made for the "limited edition" nut.

Next item is the sequel to *Star Wars*, written by Allan Dean Foster. *Splinter of the Mind's Eye* is not the space opera that *Star Wars* is, but pure exploitation; the irrational elements of the Force in SW becomes simply subconscious psi factors here. You can always trust Foster to louse up a good idea; and the duel that I knew Luke Skywalker would have to fight with Darth Vader is collapsed to a rather stupid thing. Blah.

Seabury Quinn was one of *Weird Tales* and his Jules de Grandin stories about the occult detective are still readable, if a bit repetitive. Ossie Train, who has been producing quality volumes for twenty years, has come out with Quinn's previously unprinted *Alien Flesh*. It is an interesting concept with adequate writing: an archaeologist on a dig is transformed into a girl and put in a reactionary, seraglio; unfortunately, the concept is too dated for any but fanatics these days, and even the Fabian illos cannot save the work. A book like this written today, would deal more explicitly with the problems caused by the sex change (unwilling sex change and transplantation into into an alien culture); in other words, sex. Unfortunately this book is too timid for that; and, while interesting, it is mercilessly flawed.

Isaac Asimov can teach anyone about anything, but easy steps. In *The Collapsing Universe*, from Pocket Books, he goes over the mysteries of Black Holes, starting with elementary astronomy. Tightly written (every question that I thought of in reading the book was discussed, if only to say that None Knows for Sure). Invaluable, in case you've been worry-

ing about the end of the universe in 50 billion or so years (it seems an odd worry, but it seems to me that, if we can't be immortal, at least the universe might be). Top recommendation.

Another of Ballantine's series is *The Best of Murray Leinster*. The book contains some excellent stories, although I miss Leinster's first, "The Runaway Skyscraper." But there are some fine works here "First Contact" and "The Strange Case of John Kingman."

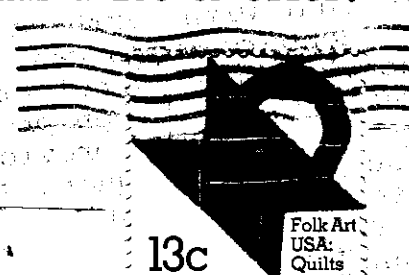
The trouble with these stories is that the good ones have been so widely anthologized, that the book is not worth buying on that account. Sigh. A puzzlement.

I think I may have said this before, but just in case, I'd better preserve the bon mot "one of the advantages of running your own publishing house is that you can print your own works. Thus, Lester Del Rey is busy reprinting his juveniles. The latest is *The Mysterious Planet*. The problem is that this book, about an inertialess world that comes into the solar system and threatens the Earth with war (ever hear of Leiber's *The Wanderer?*) is written on a level for young people. Very young people. In its simplicity of philosophy, it neither has the laying out of an alien life-style that renders LeGuin's Earthsea trilogy readable, nor the transparency that makes C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia interesting. Definitely not Tom Jones.

And, for those of us who like Gordon Dickson, Dell has come out with *Gordon R. Dickson's SF Best*. It contains a bibliography of Dickson's works, the Nebula-Winning "Call Him Lord," a deceptively simple work that approaches Dunsany in spots, and an hilarious story that is rarely seen, "Idiot Solvant," about a man who is forced into contact with his subconscious mind. Also included are "Hilifter," the short story that introduced Cully when to readers, the bitter "Of the People," and the wistfully regretful "Dolphin's Way." There is a standard introduction by Spider Robinson, and a penetrating foreword by Jim Frenkel, who did the editing of this book.

The one problem with these "Best of Collections" coming out these days is that it indicates an end to the short story as an sf form. Because magazines are not vigorous anymore, the big market for sf is the novel; but the short story is lost in the rush. Thomas Swann was forced to shift from his fine novelets to padded novels by this trend. Perhaps some of these collections will show writers that the short story still has a lot to offer.

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