

The Perelandra Poll

Quotes and Results

Thank you all very much for participating! Well, those who participated, any way. As promised, I won't name names, but I will summarize the results and I'm going to pull out some quotes, especially from the essay section.

Whoooooo Are You?

You were asked for the word in each line which best describes you (asterisks mark my answers, but you should be able to get those). Answers that chose more than one item are not included in counts.

baseball - 8* hockey basketball - 1 football - 4
One was lacrosse.

fish - 1 cat - 8* dog - 5 canary
One fish-lover specified "shark." One answer was "catfish."
One was horse.

moderate - 8 conservative - 3 liberal - 5* apathetic
All over the place, but at least everyone cares! One moderate said, "actually, liberal conservative."

jazz* classical - 3 rock - 10 country - 2
Although I'm the only jazz lover, one answer was "too close to call between jazz and classical."

history - 8* astrology philosophy - 3 art - 4
One was "philosophical art."

engineering - 2 physics - 2 geography - 7* biology - 4

hyper - 1 laid-back - 8 shy - 4 outgoing - 2*
One was laid-back AND hyper.

corn - 11 peas - 1 rhubarb - 1* potatoes - 2
Pretty unanimous; you *almost* left me on my own.

liver - 3 steak - 6* ground beef - 3 veggie - 4
I was equally surprised by turnout of veggies and (ugh) liver.

Leno - 1* Letterman - 8 Arsenio Costas - 3
Looks like CBS will do just fine. "Costas, but without his smug attitude (sounds almost like Leno, eh?)." One Briton had not heard of Costas, one hadn't heard of any of 'em (these are late-night talk show hosts). One respondent wanted the return of Dennis Miller.

unleaded - 7* regular - 6 diesel - 1 bicycle - 1
One response was "Unleaded, but dreaming of regular ('57 Chevy or '64½ Mustang)." One was "premium." One who answered wanted to know, "How about public transit?" One said, "Distances are too great for bicycle here."

Beethoven - 5* Sinatra - 1 Beatles - 10 Hammer

One Beatle fan specified the "White Album."

apple - 7* chocolate cream - 4 lemon meringue pumpkin - 5
sailing - 1 hiking - 12* horseback - 1 motocross - 1
Macintosh - 2* DOS - 7 UNIX typewriter - 6

Oh, No, Essay Questions!

Comments which are not in quotation marks are mine—Pete.

If you could never watch television again, why would you miss it? At first I would miss news and Star Trek, but as I went through my to-read list faster and faster I think I wouldn't miss it. There's near unanimity here that TV would not be much missed, as no one wants to admit to being a couch potato (yes, I hear you lot screaming, "I AM NOT A COUCH POTATO!" I dare you to say that standing up, all you who would miss TV sports!).

Chuff said, "Besides the fact that I would be out of a livelihood, what would I miss?..."

"Sports! Star Trek! Babes!" Kind of the universal answer...

"I'd miss the baseball games (and some football), but I could live without 'em—I'd subscribe to a newspaper for the first time in my life to keep up with news and sports. But I'd lose a piece of my soul without my 'Jeopardy' fix. (I usually take the phone off the hook from 7 to 7:30.)"

"I'm not sure I'd miss TV. I grew up without it until I was in fourth grade. Of course, we did see TV at Grandma's and the babysitter's, but it was never a big part of my life..."

"I'd only miss sporting events and Headline News, as I've weaned off of all other programs. Soon, I may wean off the TV as radio and newspapers cover most; however, this is doubtful, as it is cheaper to watch sports on the tube rather than go to the game and I have no desire to wean myself from sports."

"I like to be able to switch it on and watch a program I know is going to make me laugh. Oh, and live sport to get the adrenaline pumping."

"Roseanne, Home Improvement, and all the news on Sunday morning."

[[from one of the Brits]] "I really, honestly, wouldn't miss it at all. Much. I'd miss specific programs like 'Absolutely' (a kind of politically-correct, 90s, Scottish Monty Python) and the Formula 1 coverage (it's the finest form of motor sport, you know). I'd miss the radio much more than the TV..."

"Sports and the Weather Channel." The Weather Channel??

"I'd miss it only because it's the best baby-sitter ever invented. Otherwise, I'd never miss it. Since I have every Star Trek episode ever made on tape and a monitor and VCR, I'm set for life."

"I become a fanatic around World Series time, and very uncoincidental to anyone who interrupts my watching of the games. I've also enjoyed some of the Olympics. Some of the newscasts, such as CNN, I find very important. I would not miss a single sitcom or other series program, as I rarely watch them."

[[please turn over]]

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"News, SNL, Simpsons; i.e. because I enjoy a few songs."

Best comment: "I would miss the immediacy of live events, the 'you are there' feeling of sports and news. Doing without TV in this country is like doing without guns—the benefits are obvious, but no one wants to be the first to give it up. Everyone else will then have the advantage."

There's a country song by Mary Chapin Carpenter that says, "Sometimes you're the windshield, sometimes you're the bug." Most of the time, which are you? I get severely depressed at times (although less often as I get older), but most of the time I feel I'm the windshield. Bugs = 5; Windshields = 4 (but a couple of Windshields are taking a beating); neither or other = 4.

"I won't try to read too much nuance into these questions—they're just for fun, right? But does the bug represent our pathetic struggles against unrelenting and ultimately overpowering forces? And the windshield our oblivious and pell-mell rush through matters we don't comprehend? I would say usually I'm the windshield, and someone else is the rock."

"I am but a bug on the windshield of life."

"Most of the time I'm the bug (except when I'm playing Trivial Pursuit)."

"I would say that I am a bug, but I am very adept at dodging windshields."

"I'm neither the bug nor the windshield. I'm the wind which carries a few bugs to safety."

"The windshield—I always know where I intend to go, but it seems as if others are always getting in the way, which inconveniences me; but should they persist, I'll attempt to quash their anti-me behaviors."

"I'm always the windshield. I attribute this to the fact that I carry a pistol everywhere I go and a Styxer AUG in my trunk, two unailing guarantees that I won't get squashed."

"I'm the bug, trapped between the windshield and the icy, impersonal winds of modern society."

"Most of the time, I'm the one who switches the radio off whenever a country song is played. I particularly despise the phenomenon known as 'Garth Brooks.' But getting back to the question, I suppose that most of the time I'm the wiper."

"I do everything proper, according to Hoyle, to establish myself as a windshield; when *splat!* some Big Bug comes along to squarsh me!"

"Most of the time I'm the driver of the car. I see it happen, but the event is of no real consequence to my transitory existence."

What would you do with your first million-dollar lottery win? The weakest question of the bunch. Me, I would buy a house (actually, two houses, one for us and one for Cathy's folks) and pay off my debts. Yeah, mundane, I know. I was really checking to see whether anyone would come up with an answer other than save big or retire or buy something major.

"Buy a great Mac system, buy a car, go on vacation."

"Put it in the bank and *absolutely* forget about it till I'm 65."

"Buy \$1,000,000 in GOLD before Clinton can make dollars even more worthless."

"...Buy some cheap houses and become a slum lord."

"I'd try to attract investment dollars to the reservation in South Dakota for some sort of 'recycling-safe-environmental-manufacturing' to provide some ecologically-sound jobs for my people."

"Pay off all my friends' college debts."

"I'd rather not waste time on this sort of hypothetical foolishness—99% of the answers you get would have nothing in common with the hypothetical *truth*, were it to occur... my answer? The same thing I'd do with my 23rd million-dollar lottery win!"

How many people have you really admired, and how many have you really hated? I've admired five people a great deal, although that's not to say they're people with whom I still have contact. I've hated two, and one person is on both lists. I think I had in mind here people whom you know or knew personally.

Admired were none, 2, 5 or 6, 7, 7 or 8, 7-10, 12, 57, 'everyone I've ever known' and 'uncounted millions.'

Hated were none (by five people), 1 (still), 2, 2, 3, 4, and 33,407.

Comments: "The older I get, the fewer people I really admire. I admire people I know personally (mostly family and friends) but I despise from a distance—public figures who betray and hurt people. That list keeps getting longer."

"I have admired very few people in my life and truly hated none. Although the person who I have been closest to hating is my mother." Well, that's why I'm not printing names!

"Despicable people are more to be pitied than hated."

"Everybody has at least one aspect worthy of admiration. I can't really say I've hated anyone. I've found some despicable in their actions occasionally—Rush Limbaugh for one."

"Of people I've known, I've not really admired or hated any of them. Well, except me for both categories, but usually the latter, I'm afraid."

"I've got past both those habits and come to the conclusion that humanity can be divided neatly into two categories: 'bastards' and 'evil vicious slimy bastards.' Cynical, me? Hell, no, Bob. I have a grudging admiration for people who stick to their principles while swimming against the tide holding a torch, especially the ones who won't do talk shows."

"Two (not counting abstract hatred: Stalin, Hitler, Mao, etc.)."

Wouldn't it be easier if every city drew their streets on a north-south grid? I don't think it would be, but I wanted to see everyone's reaction; most of you didn't think so, so I won't reprint all the comments.

"Easier, yes—aesthetic, no."

"No. [Here], nobody could get anywhere due to the lakes."

"No, stupid. If all the roads were north-south, it would be impossible to get from First Street to Second Street without going across somebody's yard. Besides, it would be boring as hell. I like grocery stores that are the same so that I can get into and out of them quickly, but I like to enjoy a city when I visit it. (By the way, my definition of a city is something with a population of 10,000-20,000. Anything larger is a megalopolis.) Well, to me you gotta have a hundred thousand minimum to be a city, but that's not enough—I know some suburbs of a quarter-million that I wouldn't give that name to—style and surroundings are at least as important as size. A separate area with less than a hundred thousand is usually a town to me."

"Yes. It would also be easier if everyone signed up for a lobotomy on reaching puberty and ate nothing but boiled alfalfa."

"It would be really easy if every city had the same grid and street names, too! I have seen this logical concept taken to the extreme, though. Ever gotten lost in a Mormon town? They have numbered streets running both ways, and you have to carry a compass."

"Yes, it would be easier, but *boring*. It'd be easier if all Major League BallParks were the same dimensions, but there would be no Green Monster, no Launching Pad, and we'd be destined to a sterile, generic national pastime."

"Most cities do, but I do not feel that it helps."

Gotta print Mike Stewart's: "Well, my job would be easier because I'm the one who draws their streets on maps. But after weeks of only drawing Township and Range connectors, I'd proba-

bly be bored and not feeling very challenged. But I agree it is easy to get lost on some of these curvy streets, especially when you're in the middle of nowhere and the sun isn't out. My life would be a lot less stressful if we could eliminate those complicated freeway interchanges that must be cut into film on an area about the size of a dime. Yes, I realize that most people think we have automated by now, but currently we still think of ourselves as monks in the Dark Ages, copying Bibles."

A squirrel falls in the forest. Do the trees hear it? Of course they do—that is, they sense it in some way. Several of you pointed out that they don't have ears, but they have organs and senses that we don't have. 'Hearing' was the sense that came closest.

"Of course the trees don't hear it. The real question is, does it really ever make a noise!"

"The trees absorb the 'vibes' of the squirrel's fall (and, eventually, the squirrel itself). To grow more acorns and pine-nuts for future generations of squirrels, ad infinitum. Riddles are made by fools like we; but only god has the wisdom to create the fly—to give man a 'morally-correct' outlet for his sadistic desire to kill!!!"

"Of course not. Squirrels make hardly any noise when they fall. I know because my shrubbery told me. (Shrubberies have particularly acute hearing.)"

"Trees do not hear—neither do they weep." (People who think trees don't weep have never seen a six-foot fir left behind in a clearcut.)

"I think this is more a question of scale. The film "The Secret Life of Plants" purportedly documents some instances of plants sensing the death of other living things near them. So when that squirrel falls, the trees probably 'hear' it, they just don't care. Just another bug on the windshield."

"Of course they hear it. Do you think the squirrel fell all by itself? The trees did it. They need to have some fun. After all, I'd get bored standing around with nothing to do."

"I would ask them, not me!"

"Nothing really ever falls. And nothing ever really hears."

Cleaning Up

You were asked to circle any that apply:

radical - 4	hick - 4	hip - 2	libertarian - 8
Old Fart† - 4	bully	Young Turk - 1*	feisty - 6
laid-back - 8*	middle-aged - 3	whiner - 2	free spirit - 7
worn out - 9	devout - 4	sexy - 5*	confused - 7

† also includes Old Timer

No bullies in Pere, eh? And frankly, several of you are whiners but won't admit it. The libertarians are 2 moderates, 3 liberals and 3 conservatives. Interesting combinations:

"I'd like to think I'm hip, a Young Turk, devout and shy, but too many hints indicate otherwise."

"While I'm not middle-aged, my body often feels like it is..."

Two readers were radical/libertarian/feisty/free-spirit, but also 'worn out.' My favorite was the feisty, laid-back, libertarian hick. I guess I qualify as a Hobby Old Fart, but that doesn't define me most of the time.

No, of course, this wasn't scientific. It also wasn't serious, well-planned, or very important in the Cosmic Scheme. Thanks for taking part!

The Roar of the Greasepaint

(the letter column)

Doug Kent

Personally, I think any tax (such as income tax) that discourages earning and saving is self-defeating. What we need is to replace the income tax system with a national consumption tax. Charge whatever percentage is necessary (I've heard estimates from 3% to 5%). The only exempt items should be food (although restaurant food is subject to it), certain necessary paper products (t.p., napkins, paper towels), clothing with a price of under \$75 (you pay tax on the portion above \$75 for each item), medical care and prescription drugs, and rent on a primary residence. Did I forget anything? "Poor" people spend most (or all) of their income on such necessities—hence they would pay a much smaller percentage of their income on the tax. Anyone with "disposable" income would pay a greater share.

While we're still on the subject of taxes, NY Gov. Mario Cuomo is thinking about raising the tax on cigarettes (possibly doubling the state tax to 75¢/pack). How do you feel about this? Since "the poor" by all measures spend more per capita on cigarettes than "the rich," isn't such a tax regressive? Or, does the strain cancer puts on the health care system make it reasonable?

I found Clinton's whining about the \$18 Billion difference in the budget deficit a real laugh riot. Suddenly, all his promises go out the window? Clinton's own plans were based on the fact that the budget deficit was going to be up to \$100 Billion more than it was! Clinton promised to cut the deficit in half—if there's an extra \$18 billion, I'd say he can add \$9 billion onto his proposed deficit and come out even. Wouldn't you?

[[No, I'd say his people were doing their (justifiable) griping over the Bush people (justifiably) making life harder for them.

[[I would prefer a switch from income tax to value-added OR consumption OR sales tax—whatever (and the details of what's taxed and what's not can be worked out later).

[[Among other things, it would be far easier to pay my share of the government in tiny pieces every day than a big check each quarter and another on April 15—but that just speaks to my poor discipline when it comes to saving money!]

[[However, I would prefer that we first determine to spend the money we collect more wisely. Stop all tobacco subsidies, and announce illnesses and injuries caused by such activities as smoking, drinking, or driving without a safety belt (or motorcycle helmet), engaged in after 1993, will not be covered by Medicare. Just for starters.

[[In line with this, I have no problem with high sin taxes. The costs of behavior have to be recovered, which is why I also support higher gasoline taxes, despite the fact that it would increase my business loss on the 11,000+ miles/year I drive on the job. I don't think tobacco taxes are regressive, because they are voluntary (like lotteries—I've never opposed lotteries as 'regressive,' just stupid and ineffective).

[[Why do you repeatedly throw quotes around the poor?]]

David Hood

Hey, you're not paying attention. You cannot levy taxes without pointing a gun at the head of citizens—at the bottom line, the local sheriff will take your property by force to satisfy a tax lien. So, when you say "many things deserve tax support but nothing short of self-defense is worth pointing a gun" you are talking nonsense.

You are totally right on immigration. Artificial barriers between people are a really bad idea. Of course, the extension of the argument is to drop all trade barriers, which I also support.

[[beep! turn the page...]]

[[I say again: Taxes are what we choose to pay for the blessings of liberty. So long as we have an open border, I deny that they are coerced. I support reducing them, but I also support collecting them from freeloaders who want the benefits of freedom without the sacrifice. And I think that'll be my last comment—brief shots in response next time will be permitted to go uneditorialized!

[[A long time ago, Greg Ellis and I had a conversation where I took the futurist position that we needed open borders and free trade. "One World" and all that. Recently we talked again and I said I was upset at the current style of free trade and would prefer reciprocal protectionism—whatever they do to us, we do to them. At heart I want to agree that the more open our country is to the rest of the world, the better off we'll be—but we have prepared for this new world order so poorly that I can't jump right in. I think Stan had a few pages of comment on that point so let me get him in here before I go on...]]

Stan Johnson

I don't believe that forced use of Norplant [[for women on welfare with three or more children]] amounts to sterilization. It can be removed at any time. I don't believe people have a God-given right to endlessly produce children they cannot support (except in countries that have no welfare). I would favor making benefits conditional on use of birth control. ...

You have a simplistic attitude towards immigration. In 1850 you could go buffalo-hunting without a license. You can't apply 1850 standards to today's situation. When I grew up in N.J., this area was 90% farms; today it's the eighth-most densely-populated area in the country, with 7 fewer people per square mile than the city of Chicago. I have to travel two hours to find a decent patch of woods and on weekends, it's almost impossible to even find solitude or peace and quiet there. I don't feel we should sacrifice our quality of life for people who continue to breed irresponsibly.

[[When a friend is pregnant, it's 'having a baby.' When a poor person you don't know is pregnant, it's 'breeding.'

[[I think there are still parallels today to the 1850s. Immigrants come to the U.S. to get away from miserable economic conditions, and on arriving here they take up the demeaning and poverty-wage jobs which Americans won't do. (Then it was textile sweatshops and slaughterhouses and picking fruit; today it's mopping floors and mowing lawns and—surprise—picking fruit.)

[[Your problem in finding people-free space is as much an argument for more parks and wilderness designation as it is for fewer people. We still have a lot of land in this country, plenty of room for more houses, but we choose to position jobs and people and recreation in strange configurations. Better planning (jobs near homes especially, urban infill also) could be a better solution than walling up our borders.]]

If AIDS was not created by government, or as a result of attempting to use chimp blood in humans, then it might just be nature's way of saying there are too many people.

[[Since AIDS is not man-made, it might just be. But then, for centuries, polio and tuberculosis were nature's way of sending the overpopulation message; we should not scorn AIDS victims any more than polio victims.]]

... African culture seems to favor strong-man rule, because of its tribal background. It's not inferior to us, but it is different, so our answers don't always work. This allows guys like Idi Amin to go as far as they do. ... You state that you feel the people should endure 150 years of Idi Aminism in hopes that decent government will develop. I am not concerned about who caused these problems in Africa; I am concerned with solving them. In many cases,

European groupings put two or more hostile tribes in the same country, causing many problems—these countries might be better off split along tribal lines.

Mark Lew

I basically agree with Stan Johnson that Africans were better off under colonialism, but that would seem to be an argument for a new colonialism, i.e., an argument in favor of sending Americans to Somalia. The rationales for the new interventionism are basically the same ones which sustained the British Empire—keep the peace, protect the rights of underprivileged classes, feed the hungry, bring civilization and technology. But in the end colonialism didn't work, and all the imperialists got for their efforts was to be blamed for each and every problem the third world has ever suffered from. So too it will likely be with the new world order. On the whole Britain lost money on the empire, notwithstanding the economic exploitation they did. The new kinder gentler imperialism will prove even more expensive.

Somalia and Mozambique aren't very good examples of states which have gotten worse since the Europeans left, since neither had much European presence in the first place. Uganda and the many other states in the French and British empires illustrate the point much better. Somalia has always been the poorest of the poor, and for many years it was run by Ethiopians or Italians, neither of whom provided much. Mozambique was run by the Portuguese who were relatively uninvolved (absentee imperialist?).

One can dispute exactly how "standard of living" is to be measured, but I would guess that Botswana has a higher standard of living now than it did 50 years ago. It was one of the poorer countries in colonial days, and since then it has stayed fairly peaceful, stable and economically sound. Another good guess is Gabon, a small nation with high oil revenues. Gabon has certainly gotten richer, but the question is whether that has reached ordinary people enough to make their lives better. I suspect that to a small extent it has. I'd guess that Cote d'Ivoire (the Ivory Coast) probably hasn't declined as much as the rest of Africa, but if so that only supports the pro-colonialism argument, since Houphouet-Boigny was one of the few post-colonial African leaders who encouraged the Europeans to stay. Unfortunately, H-B is a bit of a megalomaniac and he has a bad habit of hoarding all the money he can get his hands on, so perhaps the ordinary citizens of Cote d'Ivoire have little or nothing to show for their nation's (relative) prosperity.

[[Stan twists my words a bit—I didn't say we should be satisfied with Africa suffering 150 years of despotism! I want to know, though, why people would think Africa would be any different from Europe?

[[Simplistically, Eurasia had monarchy and feudalism in various forms for centuries. Africa, the Americas and Australia had tribalism during that time (I know I'm generalizing, leaving out societies like the Mayans). Europeans and Asians developed nation-states and when they invaded the other continents, they imposed their patterns on the tribalist cultures. Europe had Napoleon and Bismark at a time when the continent was nominally becoming democratic; later, republican government gave us Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin. The Third World has no monopoly on strong men, they're just making mistakes that our older cultures made decades ago. It's almost like a teenager who hears his parent say, "Even though I drank and had sex while I was in school, you shouldn't," except the reason these young countries won't listen to us because we've abused them so badly in the past.

[[So we all want to help solve their problems, but let's understand that those problems are not caused by some special secret that only lies deep in the sub-Saharan jungle!]]

Roger Cox

"Run For The Shadows" is from *Golden Years*.

I'll invoke Occam's Razor as I see fit, thank you. If you are naïve enough to put your faith in "capable, trained" experts, fine. But don't make me pay for your blind faith. And yes, ONE job is worth more than all the trees in Oregon.

Mark Weseman

Roger Cox remarks that "People have the undeniable right to be bigoted, racist, sexist, uncaring, unforgiving, me-oriented, politically-incorrect, wasteful assholes—those who think otherwise should read the Constitution."

Well, Roger, I pulled out my copy of the Constitution and read through it, and I cannot for the life of me find an article in the Constitution nor in the Amendments that grant you any such undeniable right. I hope that you can educate me as to which Article or Amendment in the Constitution that gives you this right. Maybe you are referring to the Constitution of Nazi Germany. But, no, Hitler certainly wouldn't have let you be a selfish, wasteful asshole, would he now. Somehow I think that being a bigoted, racist, sexist, uncaring... whatever is in direct conflict with the Preamble to the Constitution.

[[Mark then quotes the Preamble, and in a bit of editorial legerdemain I delete that portion and produce the section which guarantees the right to be a boor, Amendment 9, Rights Retained by the People: "The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."]]

David Polley

I've enjoyed the politics in *Pere*, even if I don't write about it much myself. It's been a weird election for me, the Reaganite voting for Clinton. Shortly after the inauguration, when Bush was finally out for good, I took my Clinton/Gore bumper sticker off the car and officially joined the loyal opposition again—though the big battle to me will be within the party rather than without. I fear that the GOP is about to make the same mistake the Democrats did for years, insisting that an extremist view is really the view of the majority; and thinking failure of the party is the fault of the candidate and not the extremism. In that regard the '92 GOP and '72 Democratic conventions may prove similar watersheds in the directions their parties took; and Dan Quayle could well prove to be a Republican Walter Mondale. And to think just four to six short years ago, the GOP was on the edge of realignment <sigh>. Jack Kemp said in the '88 Texas primary that if elected, "George Bush will kill the Reagan revolution." Jack was right, as ever.

Mike Magnuson

Here are a couple of one-liners Cathy might enjoy:

What do you call a cow with two short legs and two long ones? Lean beef. ... What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground beef. ... What do you call a dog with no legs? It don't matter, he ain't gonna come.

[[Happy Birthday, Mike! (I just found out that Mike and I have the same birthday, Jan. 20.)]]

John Schultz

I just finished reading your letter column again. It seems to be coming along quite well. I was going to write a little something but I'm stuck with stuff that might perpetuate old-worn-out arguments. ...Everybody has opinions, as they should, but do you really think some of the stuff written is opinion based on sincere belief, or just an attempt to push your buttons? I find myself hoping that the latter is true because some of the 'opinions' reek of everything bad

in human nature. But as always there's someone to temper the heat. Daf's one line, "be kind to your fellow man," says it all.

[[I have a theory about letter columns (I have a theory about everything, actually, but I don't have time to copy 937 pages this month). The opinions you see here, unlike those in your local paper, are not often the result of serious and careful thought. They represent opinions "based on sincere belief" (except in cases of obvious jest) but they are drastically abbreviated, and usually set in a tone to push the buttons of anyone with an opposing view.

[[So the answer is, "All of the above." Example: I made a comment in *Absolute!* about Garret saying a certain thing because "he's just doing his politically-correct thing." Now, this was probably a mistake because I pushed Garret's button a little too hard and got him mad at me—mad enough to ask me why I don't come right out and tell people I'm a Republican instead of beating around the Bush (my phrasing, not his). But it was shorthand, a way of shrugging off his original comment as not very important or serious, without going to the effort to explain why. Maybe it wasn't very nice, but it wasn't very damaging either.

[[The same thing goes on here. People believe a whole string of things which lead to a conclusion, a conclusion which probably needs a page to be properly presented. But in a hobby, they write a couple of paragraphs, omitting all the in-between steps, and they do it in the most extreme prose they can think of so a) their point won't be missed, and b) everyone who disagrees will get skewered.

[[Don't let it bug ya. Don't take it personally unless it is personal.]]

Brad Wilson

I don't want to get too involved with the taxes thing, but in an ideal world, there would be no taxation, as taxation is simply theft by bureaucracy.

However, the world isn't ideal, and I support very limited taxation to provide for a) things to stop internal coercion (i.e., police); b) to stop external coercion (defense); and c) to provide for those truly unable to provide for themselves (the severely mentally ill, etc.).

I wouldn't tax income, sales, capital gains—anything productive, I wouldn't tax. An overall consumption tax, maybe, or Milton Friedman's negative income tax.

If you don't believe Africa's better off under colonialism—in a strictly material sense—check out Paul Kennedy's article in the February *New York Review of Books*.

[[If you only tax things that are counterproductive, you won't collect much! (grin)]]

David McCrumb

Being a semi-invalid [[he broke his foot]] at Christmas did have its advantages. I was not allowed to help carry the tree inside, nor was I allowed to help carry it back outside and plant it. I did insist on supervising the planting. I was not able to decorate much because I could not stand or move around enough. I did help cook the holiday dinner. Actually, Sharyn tried to stop me, but it is hard to keep me out of the kitchen when there is cooking to be done. She always knows how bad I feel based on how easy it is to keep me out of the kitchen. As on Christmas Eve when my foot was hurting quite a bit.

Still, the holidays were very enjoyable. I actually got things that I liked this year. Of course, it helped that I finally made a list. Ariel, our 15-year-old, had her first party. Her friends came over for New Year's Eve, so we had to act as chaperones. No problems, but then she is a good kid.

Editor's Notes

♦ There's an electronic bulletin board in the Bay Area which is based on coffeehouses. You go in to any of 19 coffeehouses and there are computer terminals at the tables which allow you to log on to "The Net" (you can also gain access from your home computer by modem). There are a number of special-interest message boards, like any bbs, but the most popular feature is live chat. Yes, people going into coffeehouses with names like Brain Wash and Muddy Waters for live conversation, but not face-to-face. That's \$2 for the next half-hour and would you like a refresh on that latté?

[The Net has all the standard bbs features: funky pseudonyms (like Treasure Troll, Rice Aroni, Thee Antechrist), smilies (my favorite smiley to date is @`——, which means "I give you a rose"), and jargon. The jargon is actually pretty standard abbreviating which looks formidable, but fen will pick up on it quickly—bbl is 'be back later' and brb is 'be right back,' both for signing off; lol is 'lots of laughs' and lmao is 'laughing my ass off,' because, in cyberspace, nobody can hear you laugh.]

♦ Looking forward to baseball season: The night before the Dallas/S.F. NFC championship game, I watched "The Natural" on TV while reading the current issue of both *Baseball America* and *Baseball Weekly* in one evening. Lovely.

♦ Your comments on the upcoming season are, as always, welcome here. Send your ideas on who will shine and who will stink, opinions on why the National League is better and why the Rangers' and Indians' new parks won't be as good as Chicago's and Baltimore's. No prediction contest this year, but if you want to pick out a team or two and tell me how many games they'll win and why, that's fine. (I'll tell you now that Colorado will finish ahead of Los Angeles and San Diego!)

♦ With Cleveland building a baseball stadium and a basketball arena (to bring the Cavs back from the suburbs), and co-sponsoring a ballet company (with San Jose), and with reports from friends and family that the Cuyahoga riverfront is getting clean and trendy, is it possible that my birthplace might return to respectability?? If Cleveland jokes fall out of fashion, I will take nominations for the next city to be the butt of dumb, backward, polluted humor!

♦ Somebody tagged a note on their orders saying that they needed another copy of the Snowball Fighting rules (Mike Magnuson?). If it was you, tell me again, I can't find it.

♦ It seems sometimes that nearly every set of orders that comes in becomes a delicate scissors operation. I know that's not the case (many of you are only in one game anyway), but trust me, a little space between games would save me time!

♦ While on Snowball Fighting: I'm imposing a firm limit on the number of players in SF games hereafter, six on the smaller, original map and eight on the larger map. GMing the monster games like DRU and WUN is a real bitch, and the prose reports feel as though they get trite faster. There's a trade-off here, because bigger games means longer and better press—but reducing the number of pages is just another reason to cut down a bit!

♦ Cathy and I have huddled on our budget for the year and our one real resolution is to live by it this time. Well, boy did I screw up our finances this month. I write bills in advance and mail them shortly before they're due—but this month, my quarterly payment to the IRS (\$1200) got mailed two weeks before it should have. After buying the computer and squeezing in just as much Christmas as we could afford, it was the wrong month to mess up the timing on our checking account! All solved now but I found myself even appreciating *Pere* re-sub and ISE orders for a few days!

♦ Speaking of money: If you send cash, I have heard of a good way to improve your chances of getting it through the mail safely. Sandwich the money between two pieces of cardboard and mark the envelope "Photographs—Do Not Bend!"

♦ The insert which comes with this issue of *Pere* includes information on the Marco Poll and on Dipcon. Zine editors will get another flyer in a few weeks which will update them on the status of *Zine Register* trades and subscriptions—be patient, I don't have the complete zine mailing list in place yet.

♦ John McLaurin was kind enough to send me copies of two columns from *WoodenBoat* magazine on the use of tropical hardwoods, and Mark Weseman sent newspaper clippings on the Korean election. Thanks to all of you who send reprints; I devour that kind of reading because I so easily get tired of the same old magazine and newspaper writers. Don't be disappointed if the articles don't turn up in *Pere*—rest assured I'll brew those ideas in my head until they turn up in one of my editorials! I do feel as though I've been packing in the text the past couple of issues, and this one is beginning to look like "unrelieved margin-to-margin copy" even though it's in columns! Any desire out there for fewer words and more graphics/white space?? Happy Valentine's Day!

The Broom Closet

sweeping out the corners of the hobby

All prices are per issue. For zines which are published in the United Kingdom, send roughly \$1 for every 65 pence via the ISE.

Gung Hay Fat Choy! Happy New Year! 4691, a Year of the Rooster

Carolina Command & Commentary 56 reveals that Bob Packwood carries a Kennedy Express card, verifying that he is an honorary member of the Kennedy family and "entitled to all indiscretions, debaucheries, and revelries accorded that position." David Hood also reports that *DixieCon '93* will again be on Memorial Day weekend, contrary to some convention calendars; and that there will be an interview with some Left Coast Dip editor in the next *Diplomacy World*. \$1, Michael Lowery, 3005 Kenninghall Court, Charlotte NC 28269.

Speaking of cons, *Ramblings by Moonlight* 25 brings news that Joan and Ken Corbin (and Samantha and Crystal) are reviving *Leprecon*, after an absence of six years; instead of the traditional March date, this one will be May 14–16. Bruce and Krissi Linsey will be there, and since Russ Rusnak has family in the area he might also make the trip. This issue of *RbM* has Eric as swimsuit-issue cover boy sea-elf, a real collector's item. \$1 (\$1.50 in Canada and overseas), Eric Ozog, 9509 - 209th Avenue East, Bonney Lake WA 98390.

One more convention: Vince Lutterbie sez *PoolCon* will be June 18–22. Vince is at 1021 Stonehaven, Marshall MO 65340.

It's only a small issue of *Benzene*, but #94 (really the 64th issue) is once again an excellent mix of politics, etymology and gossip. The level of debate in *B* is summed up by Mark's opening line: "Whoops, Democratic president—time to start trending to the right again..." 80¢ (90¢ in Canada, \$1.45 elsewhere), Mark Lew, 5390 Broadway #2, Oakland CA 94618.

C'est Magnifique returns to *mimeo* with issue 121, as Peter has finished professional exams and can resume the printing/colating/ mailing chores himself. This means bigger issues, a large improvement, and helped further by Peter passing on the post of orphan game nurse. In the month since the last *Pere*, issue 122 has also come out, with 3 pages on the differences between the US and UK *Diplomacy* rulebooks. 45p, Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton St, Darlington, County Durham DL1 4EN, U.K.

Rambling WAY 26 bears the tidings that Andy's Brazilian columnist, Luis Cláudio S. Duarte, will be starting a new zine titled *Hy-Brazil*. You can request a sample from him at:

SHIS - Q119 - Conjunto 7 - Casa 35
71655-070 Brasília - DF - BRASIL

RW itself is \$1 (\$1.25 in Canada, more elsewhere), Andy York, Box 2307, Universal City TX 78148-1307.

The *American Diplomacy Register* wants information on your **face-to-face games and groups**. Send results of each ffg game (players, countries, W/L/D outcome), news on tournaments, conventions and meetings, and contact addresses to Buz Eddy, Buz Eddy, 7500 212th St. #205, Edmonds WA 98026.

In *Upstart 58*, Garret starts swirling around the ideas that will become **Capitalist Dip 2.0**. If you want in on this "ultimate Bourse," where the people trading the stocks actually make the decisions on where to push the pieces, write him with your suggestions and request. \$1.50, Garret Schenck, 40 - 3rd Place, Basement Apt, Brooklyn NY 11231-3302.

I have a strange request. If you have documentary evidence (driver's license, phone-book listing) of the existence of someone named "Guy Thomas," please send it to *Realpolitik*, Guy Thomas, 8 Tithe Court, Parlant Road, Langley, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8AS. (snicker snicker)

For those of you who hate negotiating and would rather face a minimum number of units in each game report, how about a **Fog of War No-Press Gunboat** game? Richard's waitlist is open again, so write for *Zero Sum*, \$1, Richard Weiss, 554 Liberty St, San Francisco CA 94114.

Jack McHugh's subzine returns to this month's *Maniac's Paradise* (#47), and brings with it every typographical error known to man! The news, though, is that Doug has opened the voting for the **1993 Rusty Bolt Awards**:

- Bernie Oaklyn Memorial Award for worst diplomatic skills
- Dumb Idea of the Year Award
- Ms. Nar Award for most entertaining press
- Fast Trax Award for most unreasonably delayed zine
- Black Splotch Award for ugliest Dip zine
- *Been There, Done That* Memorial Award for most eagerly anticipated fold
- Acquire Number Custodian Award for most unnecessary hobby service
- Paul Milewski Award for most boring topic in hobby letters
- Steve Sulzby/Jonas Johnson Award for nastiest game press
- Ego Trip Award for silliest hobby debate topic
- Rookie of the Year Award for the best new Dip zine of 1992

Of course, Doug had no idea that I was reviving the Freshman Zine Poll with this year's Marco Poll, but what the heck, send your nominations to Doug (balloting will be in a second stage, later). *MP* \$1, Doug Kent, 54 West Cherry Street #211, Rahway NJ 07065.

Doug has also just published the **1993 PDO Census**. This year, despite receiving sublists from 33% more zines, the Census lists 14% fewer Dipsters! (It appears that last year's Census was unusually large and this year's has only returned to the 1990 level—there's a difference of only 5 U.S. names between 1990 to 1992.) California lost only one name (110 players listed this year), and Florida increased from 10 to 18, but Ontario and the major U.S. industrial states had large losses. The total number of Canadian Dipsters—54—is now less than half of the 1990 figure.

Vertigo returns! This "butt-ugly" zine (his term) reappears (#111) after more than six months, as Brad recovers from being laid-off ('made redundant' to you Brits). Working freelance and having a broken computer means V is back to irregular typing and hard right-wing opinion—I love it, even when he calls Clinton "ethically flawed" (well, Brad should know, the Repubs teach master classes in unethical!). 45¢ (95¢ overseas), Brad Wilson, Box 126, Wayne PA 19087.

There is a **Fictionary Dictionary** list waiting in *Sidewalk 12*. All you music historians (Jim-Bob?) should be reading this, as Mike works his way through the charts of hit songs of the 60s and

70s to see how they've aged. £1, Mike Clark, Auchtydore, Longside, Peterhead, Grampian AB42 7YL, Scotland.

I received my copy of *Lies 4* right on time, and shortly thereafter received my copy of *Lies 2*, postmarked Dec. 4! But they have room for you in **postal Junta**, and they have one of the best productions in the hobby plus a sense of humor. 75p, Richard Egan, 23 Cleeve Road, Knowle, Bristol BS4 2JR, U.K.

Too bad for Brent, the printer messed up the page order on *Making Love in a Canoe* #1. But it can be truly said that in only two months of publishing, Brent has managed to stand the *Zine Register* on its head! 4¢/Cdn/page+postage, Brent McKee, 901 Avenue T North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 3B9, Canada.

There are many good reasons why zines are late. Russ Wallace's *Quest for Power 15* (first sample I've seen) was late due to multiple stress: home-buying, legal fights, school, moving, and a death in the family... and then Russ concludes with this:

"I must admit one other thing. In order to remove the pressure of the stress, I chose to play a computer game when I should have been at the computer putting the zine out. Does anyone else like the **computer game Civilization?**"

Indeed they do, Russ. Several editors have gotten hooked (Paul Kenny's *Absolute!* reports a top score of 278% so far, although Paul got his zine out on time; I understand a certain Hobby Custodian has been playing it when he SHOULD HAVE BEEN PACKING AND SHIPPING HIS SUPPLIES ON TO THE NEW GUY! Ahem...). Anyway, Russ is trying to fill a Dip game that has John Schultz, Stephen Dorneman and Scott Cameron on the list already. *QFP*, no sub fee but \$15 gamefee, Russ Wallace, Box 256, West Lynn MA 01905.

Grass Roots 3 is out, arriving the same day as *Foolhardy 5*, which contains this gem from John Caruso on hobby services: "What services should be eliminated? Any duplicate services." *Foolhardy*, as you might expect, rehashes some ancient hobby discussions, but it does appear to be bringing out good chat about World DipCon, a Dipdom federation/organization (bad idea but good chat), and publishing. *Foolhardy* \$1, Doug Kent, 54 West Cherry Street #211, Rahway NJ 07065; *Grass Roots* \$1, John Caruso, 636 Astor Street, Norristown PA 19401.

Diplomag 109 has a wonderful autobiographical article by Eric Young—high school and college in the Bay Area in the 60s and travel in Europe in the 70s, dual citizenship in Canada in the 80s. Wunnerful stuff! \$5/year for Mensans, Fred C. Davis, Jr., 3210-K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City MD 21043.

The **Diplomacy Hobby Awards** (1993, North American version) are taking nominations. An excellent change has been made in the wording of the Holley award, one I fully support. Send your nominations in the following categories to David McCrumb, 3636 Oldtown Road, Shawsville VA 24162.

- Don Miller Memorial Award for hobby service. This is normally considered the most prestigious award. The recipient should be one who has made a major contribution to the hobby in the past year. Ineligible: John Caruso, David Hood.
- Rod Walker Award for literary excellence. Designed to recognize the best article written and published within the past year. (If you make a nomination, please include a copy of the written piece.) Ineligible: Garret Schenck, Mark Berch.
- John Koning Memorial Award for outstanding play of Diplomacy, in any venue. Ineligible: Gary Behnen.
- Melinda Holley Award for general participation in the hobby. This award is designed to recognize those people who make this hobby so enjoyable and functional year in and year out.

If you can include a contribution of a dollar or two with your nominations, that would help play for the plaques. If not, cool.

Whew. That's all, folks! ♣

Conservation or Conservative?

by Pete Gaughan

I am often found arguing ticky-tack points of tree-cutting and wilderness designations with those who think we should emphasize using resources rather than saving them. Lately several of these minor specifics have started coalescing together to form a single premise. This is not really the big question of "Why Environmentalism?", because that properly requires a certain faith, a certain attitude which you either have or you don't. But the next-smaller question of, "Why Conservation?"

Conservatives (as modern politics uses the term) generally say we should cut trees, let cattle graze, mine minerals and dam rivers. They argue that conserving resources like trees, grass, soil, water—all the things we get with public lands—stifles business and deprives business and property owners of their 'rights' to profit.

[Metacontextual note: several of my points here have turned up elsewhere since I began this piece, so I'm sorry if I sound redundant. For an excellent professional study of this topic, read Alan Thein Durning's book *How Much is Enough?*, or his article in the February 1993 issue of *Sierra* magazine.]

The argument that somehow conservation pits jobs vs. owls (for instance) is specious (pardon the pun). In every instance where concern for the environment is hindering manufacturing or resource extraction, jobs will be lost at a foreseeable point in the future anyway. It's all a matter of timing: we can give up X thousand logging jobs now, in an orderly manner (planned for, re-trained for and so forth); or we can lose the same X thousand jobs twenty years from now by floating with the status quo. *The difference* is that by halting the timber cuts now and planning for the disruption, we get two big benefits:

- People are moved out of the lumber business, instead of being thrown out; and
- At the end of the whole process, we have ancient forests and the species that depend on them, instead of tree farms.

Conservationists are *not* saying don't cut any trees. (Please, do not tar me with the efforts of the radical fringe. Not all environmentalists are lunatic extremists, no matter what Chris Carrier and Robert Dorman say.) The USFS mission is currently to husband timber for the lumber companies. Not to preserve publicly-owned forests for public enjoyment, but to sell publicly-owned trees so businesses can make a profit.

Well, first, if we own the trees we should make the profit. Any tree sold by the USFS has got to be sold at a fair price. Right now, the Forest Service spends over \$500 million/year building roads and underpricing lumber to private companies.

But more important, we shouldn't cut trees so fast. The current style of clearcutting kills regions by speeding up erosion so that plants cannot reestablish themselves, and rivers are filled with silt which chokes fish. Soil dies as the normal cycle of nutrient-tree-nutrient is disrupted. Birds and mammals which feed on either the plants or the fish have to find new habitat—except meadow species such as mice and gophers, which may be able to adapt to the treeless environment. (If you're really worried about commerce over conservation, why have you allowed the salmon business—a \$28 million/year industry—to be reduced nearly to extinction by clearcutting and dams? Who decided lumberjacks deserve jobs more than fishermen? The lumber companies, that's who!)

Cutting trees in areas which have never been logged before (that's the definition of "old growth" or "ancient forests") is ridiculous. Replanting has been ignored, despite industry whining—very few acres have been replanted at all, and those which have are tree farms, with symmetrical trees all the same age and species. Undergrowth and animal life don't reappear in tree farms.

• The Mining Law of 1872 says that if you find minerals or oil on public land, you can file a claim (called a 'patent') with the government. The government *must* allow you to extract those resources, at a flat price set in 1872—\$2.50/acre—and cannot hinder you, cannot regulate you, cannot require that you restore the land to its natural state when you're done, cannot even demand that you clean up any hazardous waste you leave behind!

Just as we lose money on forest sales, we the people are being cheated out of the profits on mineral 'sales.' This loss is at least recognized by the token fee, but the cost in pollution and loss of scenery and habitat is even greater and is passed on completely to the public, hidden in increased health care expenses and decreased quality of life.

Those are examples of companies getting a free (or extremely cheap) ride at taxpayer expense. It's not possible to logically argue that business is 'entitled' to those bonuses. But the following problems demonstrate that even when conservation does directly increase the cost of business, the impact is a minor, niggling nuisance compared to the penalty the general public pays.

• Some developers can't accept that the Corps of Engineers is required to consider habitat values in approving wetlands construction projects. Well, they'll be happy to know that habitat is routinely *not* considered; the Corps only denies about 3% of all applications.

• Ticked off that EPA has veto power over dumps, dams and wetlands? Don't worry, the Republican administrations have emasculated the agency. Since 1971 (only four years of Democratic bureaucracy since then), out of all the wetlands construction projects the Corps of Engineers have approved (something over 100,000 total), the EPA has vetoed 11. Yes, eleven.

• Farm subsidies are currently set up to encourage short-term, quick-fix, land-raping techniques. If you've never thought of farming as an environmental/anti-environmental activity, you've never been on a farm. Pesticides, water rights, occupational health hazards; need I say more?

• If you don't hold grazing rights to federal land, you are paying ranchers to create deserts. The price of such rights on federal land is less than 10% of that on private land. Grazing is paid for per beast per year, but since the rights cannot be revoked there are no incentives to conserve plant life and soil. Logic would seem to say that if you choose not to exercise your rights and leave some land fallow, and care for the area you do graze properly, your grazing rights would be more valuable in the future. For some reason this logic escapes ranchers, who know that if they take all the short-term benefit out of the public land they can always move the cattle elsewhere.

• I guess maybe the cost of environmental protection is all that money being poured into Superfund, to clean up toxic-waste sites. \$7.5 billion over the past twelve years would have solved our deficit problems, I'm sure (well, Jimmy Carter's share of it, anyway—hyork). Of course, we got good service for our money, cleaning up more than 100 sites—but that's out of something like 32,000 dumps. (That's an EPA guess, made up by political appointees. The Office of Technology Assessment, using the same definition of toxic waste, estimates there are 400,000 sites that need cleaning up by Superfund.) And that \$7.5 bil was supposed to be recovered from the polluters but rarely is, making Superfund a *welfare program for big (usually) business*.

• In the letter column I made a comment about an EPA study of freshwater fish. Well, that's really recent. The report came out after the election—EPA took a sampling of fish from over 200 lakes and streams all over the country. 95% of them were contaminated with DDE, a break-down product of DDT which is toxic to humans. 75% contained Dioxin, another toxic chemical which is

[[finishes up on the next page]]

DAGOBAB / Metropolis

Round Seventeen: Land Rush

HICK (David Hood—Hickory Indus. Const. Kingpins) buys lot 28.
 JGC (John Galt—John Galt Company) buys lot 36.
 BBL (Chuff Afflerbach—Bailey Building and Loan) buys lot 10;
 builds school on lots 10-12.
 SSI (Andrew York—Southern Slum Industries) buys lot 78; builds
 factory at 73-74/78-79.

especially high downstream from paper mills. Over 90% had some amount of mercury which could not be traced to natural sources. All of this constitutes a cost paid by the public in health care and reduced resources, and we pay huge amounts to clean up a small number of these waters—an estimated fifteen times as much as the polluters pay in fines. As Durning puts it, "Paper and pulp are not priced to reflect the habitat destroyed and water poisoned in their production."

And the most frustrating thing is, there is a law on the books, passed in 1899, making it a federal crime for any factory to dump any waste in any U.S. body of water. I don't believe there's been a prosecution under this law within my lifetime.

A free market is either a fairy tale—regulation doesn't seem to exist but powerful people are, in reality, getting special treatment—or a 'free lunch'—where it looks as though the costs and benefits must be weighed by business, but costs are really being picked up by taxpayers. If environmental regulations were enforced, maybe they would cost too much and prevents beneficial development—but I certainly doubt we'll find out soon. This is not just a problem in environmental issues; far be it from me to hide behind just trees. This kind of bass-ackwards activity goes on all over the place.

These are not eco-terrorist propaganda lines. With the exception of the Superfund, not one of these items is a call for increased government spending, budget-busting or higher taxes. I do not believe our government should collect more money than it did in 1992—I believe we could, with wise cuts and policy changes, live on the 1992 federal annual revenue until the year 1996 at least.

I do support making choices, not merely allowing current programs to float down the river of time unquestioned. We must tie costs to causes, and we must husband public resources more carefully. If the people of this country don't instruct their representatives in how they want their money better managed, they share the shame for those representatives' failure to choose wisely.

Responses to this piece, if any, will not be in my normal letter column format. I have a 'format' idea in mind that I'd like to try my hand at, and it involves some extra editing beyond what I usually do. Don't be frightened away by this, I want to hear from you. ♣

HICK: store 53-54	\$ 5
office 51/55-57	22
department store 81-83/86-88	30
empty lots 23, 24, 28. Total	\$57
JGC: house 50	\$ 2
house 64	5
house 70	1
store 61-62	9
apartment 60/65-66	18
empty lots 21, 25, 27, 32, 34, 35, 36, 38. Total	\$35
BBL: school 10-12	\$12
apartment 13-14/19	18
store 17-18	8
house 15	5
house 63	5
school 67-69	14
empty lots 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 31. Total	\$62
SSI: house 26	\$ 1
house 40	2
hospital 41-42/45-46	28
factory 71-72/76-77	18
factory 73-74/78-79	18
empty lot 49. Total	\$67
Commercial real estate:	\$114
All others (house, apt, school, store):	108
Total value:	\$222

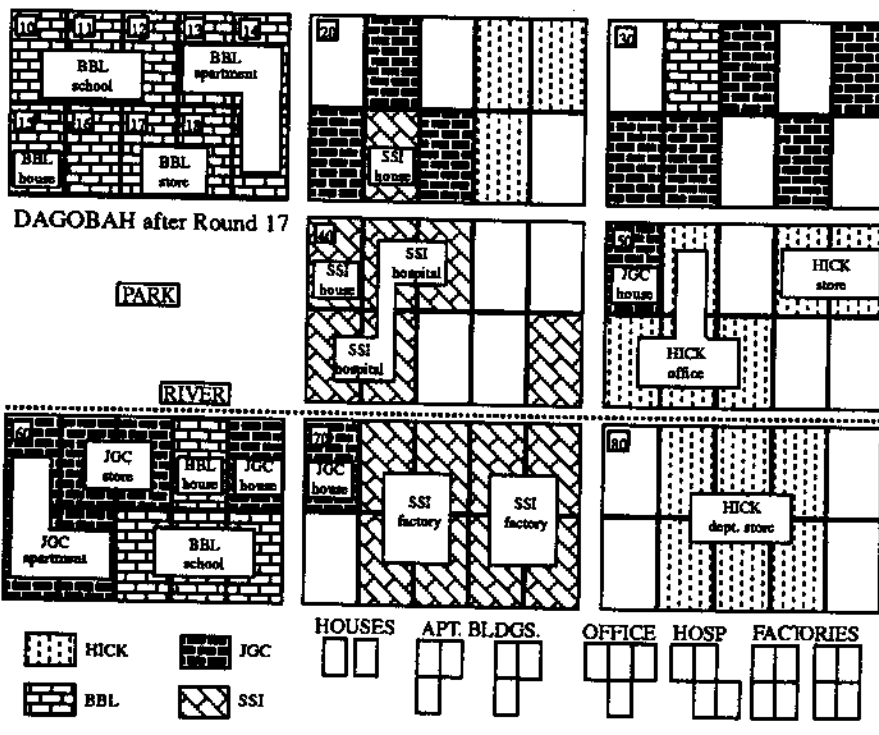
"\$" are current values, not final scores.
**Deadline for Round Eighteen
 is February 27.**

GM to Dagobahns: Look, people, I know the map is tiny once I get to the page layout, but try to remember: each block starts with a multiple of ten. So the last lot on the 'top right' of a block ends with a 4, not a 5!

GM note: John Galt asked me to publish his new phone: (707) 557-9655.



From George Bailey: Don't want your little darling mingling with the riff-raff over at the only public school in town? Well, bring your youngster and your voucher over to our exclusive new private school: Darwin Elementary, where only the fittest graduate!

I believe we have two lives: the one we learn with, and the one we live with after that.



GRAMARYE / British Rails BR8901

Round Seventy

<p>Railroad: Wrobel's Wrailway Owner: Paul Gardner</p> <p>70: Move 10mp into Stoke (pay BB), then 2mp further S.</p> <p>card 45: bristol/oil/£10; carlisle/textiles/£10; york/jute/£25. card 60: glasgow/steel/£17; gloucester/tourists/£13; lincoln/pottery/£12. card 85: newcastle/lead/£28; penzance/pigs/£40; dover/tourists/£6.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying three lead.</p> <p>color: purple</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Opening Bal:</td><td>£ 48</td><td>order this time: 1</td></tr> <tr><td>Income:</td><td>+ 4</td><td>next: 1/5</td></tr> <tr><td>Expenses:</td><td>- 4</td><td>GOs? yes</td></tr> <tr><td>Balance:</td><td>£ 44</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Opening Bal:	£ 48	order this time: 1	Income:	+ 4	next: 1/5	Expenses:	- 4	GOs? yes	Balance:	£ 44		<p>Railroad: Puppytail Rail Owner: David McCrumb</p> <p>70: Move 12mp S.</p> <p>card 11: barrow/lead/£20; brighton/cotton/£24; exeter/conmat/£27. card 82: glasgow/oats/£7; dover/cattle/£11; hereford/machinery/£3. card 113: ipswich/coal/£16; london/sugar/£13; newcastle/textiles/£9.</p> <p>Fast Freight carrying pigs and jute.</p> <p>color: green</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Opening Bal:</td><td>£ 89</td><td>order this time: 5</td></tr> <tr><td>Income:</td><td>+ 4</td><td>next: 2/4</td></tr> <tr><td>Expenses:</td><td>-</td><td>GOs? yes</td></tr> <tr><td>Balance:</td><td>£ 93</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Opening Bal:	£ 89	order this time: 5	Income:	+ 4	next: 2/4	Expenses:	-	GOs? yes	Balance:	£ 93	
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Expenses:	-	GOs? yes																							
Balance:	£ 93																								
<p>Railroad: Silkworth's Sober Steamers Owner: David Hood</p> <p>70: Move 2mp into Stranraer (pay PR), sell conmat for £33M (card 15); move 9mp E to jctn with own line and stop. Draws card #17.</p> <p>card 13: lincoln/conmat/£9; penzance/tobacco/£18; swansea/cotton/£22. card 17: berwick/sugar/£20; barnstaple/textiles/£22; pembroke/hops/£14. card 98: london/beer/£3; hereford/pottery/£8; hull/tourists/£16.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying oats and coal.</p> <p>color: brown</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Opening Bal:</td><td>£ 50</td><td>order this time: 4</td></tr> <tr><td>Income:</td><td>+ 33</td><td>next: 3/3</td></tr> <tr><td>Expenses:</td><td>- 4</td><td>GOs? no</td></tr> <tr><td>Balance:</td><td>£ 79</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Opening Bal:	£ 50	order this time: 4	Income:	+ 33	next: 3/3	Expenses:	- 4	GOs? no	Balance:	£ 79		<p>Railroad: Bergmann's Boxcars Owner: Jason Bergmann</p> <p>70: Move 5mp N into Liverpool and stop.</p> <p>card 16: hull/jute/£35; colchester/lead/£29; stranraer/fish/£32. card 22: norwich/oil/£17; gloucester/beer/£8; holyhead/tourists/£13. card 117: london/pigs/£18; aberystwyth/tobacco/£13; dundee/coal/£6.</p> <p>Fast Freight carrying no loads.</p> <p>color: black</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Opening Bal:</td><td>£ 13</td><td>order this time: 3</td></tr> <tr><td>Income:</td><td>+ 4</td><td>next: 4/2</td></tr> <tr><td>Expenses:</td><td>-</td><td>GOs? yes</td></tr> <tr><td>Balance:</td><td>£ 17</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Opening Bal:	£ 13	order this time: 3	Income:	+ 4	next: 4/2	Expenses:	-	GOs? yes	Balance:	£ 17	
Opening Bal:	£ 50	order this time: 4																							
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Expenses:	- 4	GOs? no																							
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Income:	+ 4	next: 4/2																							
Expenses:	-	GOs? yes																							
Balance:	£ 17																								
<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deadline for Rounds 71 and 72 is February 27.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Event for Round 70: card 127: FOG. All trains within ten mileposts of the northernmost city on the next card move at half rate. No rail building allowed in this area. Town is Perth—no effect. Card remaining in deck: 67.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>		<p>Railroad: Birmingham & Hereford Rail Road Owner: Eric Brosius</p> <p>70: Pick up two coal, move 3mp into Middlesbrough, pick up oil; move 9mp S. Build from Cardigan 6mp into Pembroke.</p> <p>card 7: holyhead/hops/£19; edinburgh/tobacco/£45; plymouth/tourists/£26. card 18: pembroke/oil/£25; penzance/sugar/£38; brighton/machinery/£10. card 103: brighton/beer/£7; stranraer/tourists/£24; coventry/coal/£8.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying two coal and one oil.</p> <p>color: red</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Opening Bal:</td><td>£175</td><td>order this time: 2</td></tr> <tr><td>Income:</td><td>+</td><td>next: 5/1</td></tr> <tr><td>Expenses:</td><td>- 11</td><td>GOs? yes</td></tr> <tr><td>Balance:</td><td>£164</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Opening Bal:	£175	order this time: 2	Income:	+	next: 5/1	Expenses:	- 11	GOs? yes	Balance:	£164												
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Income:	+	next: 5/1																							
Expenses:	- 11	GOs? yes																							
Balance:	£164																								

Brotisserie League Is Comin' Again!

If you wish to play in our scaled-down, draft-only baseball league, let me know this month. In the next issue, I will reprint the rules and assign divisions; the first draft of teams will be due to be postmarked by Opening Day (April 5).

I expect, from comments received previously, David Wang (defending champion), John Caruso, Richard Weiss, and possibly David McCrumb. (The others who played last season—Andy York and Eric Voogd—haven't yet said.) I am willing to take up to ten managers.

The game is simple. At four points through the season—Opening Day, June 1, August 1, and the final day of the season—each manager sends in a team of 14 position players and 9 pitchers, selected from the major-league rosters. Your goal is to collect a team which will score highest in as many of these categories as possible: batting avg, home runs, rbi, stolen bases, and runs scored for the hitters; wins, saves, baserunners per nine innings, era and strikeouts for the pitchers. (We wanted to add walks on both sides of the equation but I'm unwilling to change the rules too much all at once.)

Your roster choices are restricted somewhat by position (you can't choose ten outfielders), and at each later stage of the game some star players are ineligible (to keep everyone from having identical teams of the league-leaders, forcing managers to examine good players who aren't #1). But it's free and easy (!) so if you're a baseball fan, here's your chance to prognosticate who will have a good year and who's going to fall on their face!

It's Me Again!

by Cathy Gaughan

Hello! I'm back! No big surprise, I expect. I hope I'll be seeing some of you for Nova-Con. I'm not sure exactly when Pete is going to get this thing out, so Nova-Con may be over by the time you are reading this. It is Super Bowl Sunday, and how about them Cowboys. There's not that great feeling I used to get when I lived in Arlington, Texas and the Cowboys won the Super Bowl. The 49ers fans just don't seem to be behind the Cowboys. I figure if your team can't handle the big games, you could at least root for a team that can. They don't seem to get this theory. Anyway, it will be great getting to brag at work tomorrow. What's even funnier is I didn't even watch the game until part way through the 4th quarter. But, I'm still glad that America's Team is back on top.

I've been keeping quite busy this past month. Lots of stuff happenin' in Sweet Adelines that's keeping me busy in both roles as chorus member and president of the Board. We have our yearly competition coming up the first weekend in April, so all kinds of extra rehearsals are being planned.

My job is still bizarre, but at least I have one.

Pete, his Mom, and I went on this great birding trip last Saturday. I have now seen a Bald Eagle. It was quite inspiring. The first ones that we saw were quite a ways away, so I wasn't as impressed. But, later one was much closer and in magnificent lighting. It was like he was posing for us.

The big thing coming up is our vacation to Florida. We leave the Tuesday after noc-avoN (that's Nova-con to you, but I figure I'll be a little confused by then). This will be our first visit to see my mom since she has had all the treatments for her cancer. I'm a little scared, but I'm also very excited to see her and the rest of my family. I just hope that everything will go okay.

Pete will be leaving Florida a week before I do to go to his Annual Photo Show that is being held in Atlanta this year, so I will be coming back from Florida all by myself. I hadn't flown on a plane until after Pete and I were married for a couple years. Now I get to experience flying on my own. Let's hope I get on the right plane.

I'd like to leave you with a bit of Life's Little Instruction Book by H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

1. Compliment three people every day.
7. Look people in the eye.
11. Sing in the shower.
13. Learn to make great chili.
26. If in a fight, hit first and hit hard.
93. Choose your life's mate carefully. From this one decision will come ninety percent of all your happiness or misery.
99. Think big thoughts, but relish small pleasures.
226. When someone hugs you, let them be the first to let go.
346. Be bold and courageous. When you look back on your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than the ones you did.
443. Laugh a lot. A good sense of humor cures almost all of life's ills.

Later y'all,

Cathy

GIEDI PRIME / 1992AK

Summer 1902: Russia retreats a rum-ukr.

Fall 1902: Big Ears But Blind

Austria (Roger Cox): a gal-boh, f alb-ion, a rum h (a bud s, a ser s), f bul/sc h.

England (Mike Magnuson): f nts-ska (f nwy s), f eng-nts, a vor s f bre-ion /impossible/.

France (Pat Conlon): f bre-eng, f mid-por, a mar-spa, a bel u.

Germany (Lance Anderson): f bal-ber, a mun-ber /ruh bur sil otb/, a den h (a kie s), f hol-bel.

Italy (Hugh Magen): f tun-wes (f tyn s), a boh-mun (a tyo s).

Russia (Greg Ellis): a fin-swe (f ska s /annihilated/), a sil-war, f bla-rum /annihilated/ (a ukr s, f sev s).

Turkey (Andy York): a smy-arm, f ank-bla (f con s).

No neutrals remain. Seasons separated on two requests.

Deadline for Winter 1902/Spring 1903 is February 27.

Wicked Witch to Wicked Witch: Do it up!

Limestone to Frog Leg: I've kept up my end. Time will tell if you have kept up yours.

GM to Limestone: Do you need to borrow a stopwatch?

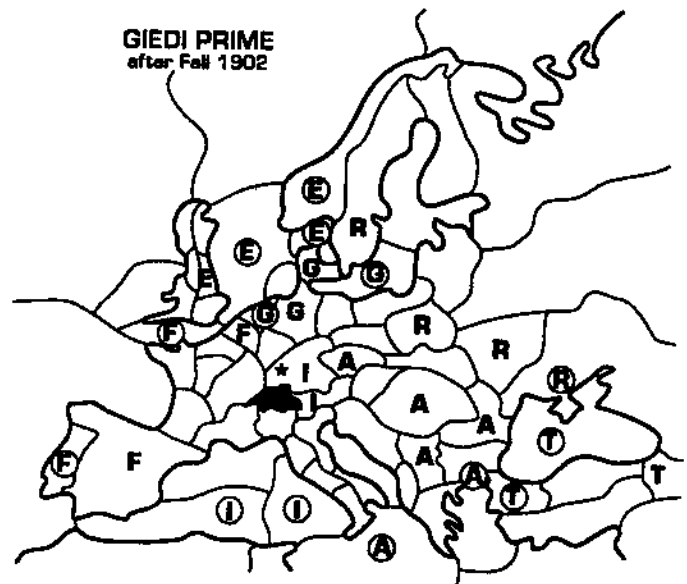
Germany to Russia: I'd like to give you something but it wouldn't be the game...

Desperately Hungry Mailbox to All: Now why don't she write???

GM to Box: She's probably reading *Vanity Fair* instead of *Pere*.

Mike to Hugh: Thanks for the X-mas card. What an unexpected treat.

Pete to Mike: I need to tell you that in my zine, 'nor' does not necessarily mean Norway! You don't have to use the abbreviations that I use but be careful.



GIEDI PRIME / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1902

	vie	tri	bud	ser	bul	gre	RUM
Austria	vie	tri	bud	ser	bul	gre	RUM
England	lvp	edi	lon	nwy			
France	par	bre	mar	bel	SPA	POR	
Germany	mun	kie	ber	hol	den		
Italy	rom	nap	ven	tun	MUN		
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	swe	rum	
Turkey	con	ank	smy				
Austria	6/7	may build one					
England	4/4	even					
France	4/6	may build two					
Germany	5/4	remove one, or retreat otb and stay even					
Italy	4/5	may build one					
Russia	6/5	may build one (two annihilations)					
Turkey	3/3	even					

RAMA / Spectrum Titan

OOPS: Map showed E34 in the wrong hex; it really is in P115.

Round Twentynine

BLACK LEGIONS (Vince Lutterbie) die roll 4: Eye Jungle J135-Marsh M131; Hand holds in Brush B38; Gravestone Plains P115 (E34); Arrowhead holds in Hills H23; Skull Tundra 2000-Woods W11; Rose Plains P29-Tundra 2000.

BLUE LEGIONS (John Galt) die roll 2: Trident Desert D35 (E33).

GOLD LEGIONS (Marc Peters) die roll 4: Sun Marsh M136-Marsh M36; Talons holds in Hills H18; Lamp Plains P115 (E34); Bearclaw Brush B109 (E30); Fireball Plains P110 (E32).

RED LEGIONS (Art Shulman) die roll 6: Torch TITAN Teleports Jungle J104-Jungle J135; Spiral holds in Jungle J125; Double Eagle Mountains 1000-Plains P6; Hourglass holds in Mountains 1000; Sword Plains P110 (E32); Jester Desert D35 (E33); Scimitar Plains P129-Desert D35; Star holds in Brush B3; Bleeding Heart Swamp S111 (E30); Shield Swamp S14-Plains P20.

Red Shield and Gold Talons don't engage because Talons is returning from an engagement.

Engagements

Engagement 27: Gold Talons defeats Red Salamander in H18. 2 Rangers, 2 Wyverns, Hydra, Lion die; 119 points to Gold.

Engagement 30: Gold Bearclaw attacks Red Bleeding Heart in S111.

Engagement 32: Gold Fireball attacks Red Sword in P110.

Engagement 33: Blue Trident attacks Red Jester in D35.

Engagement 34: Gold Lamp attacks Black Gravestone in P115.

Point Count: Gold 768, Red 673, Black 39, Blue 36.

Musters, Round 29: Angel, Giant, Griffon, Minotaur, 2 Rangers.

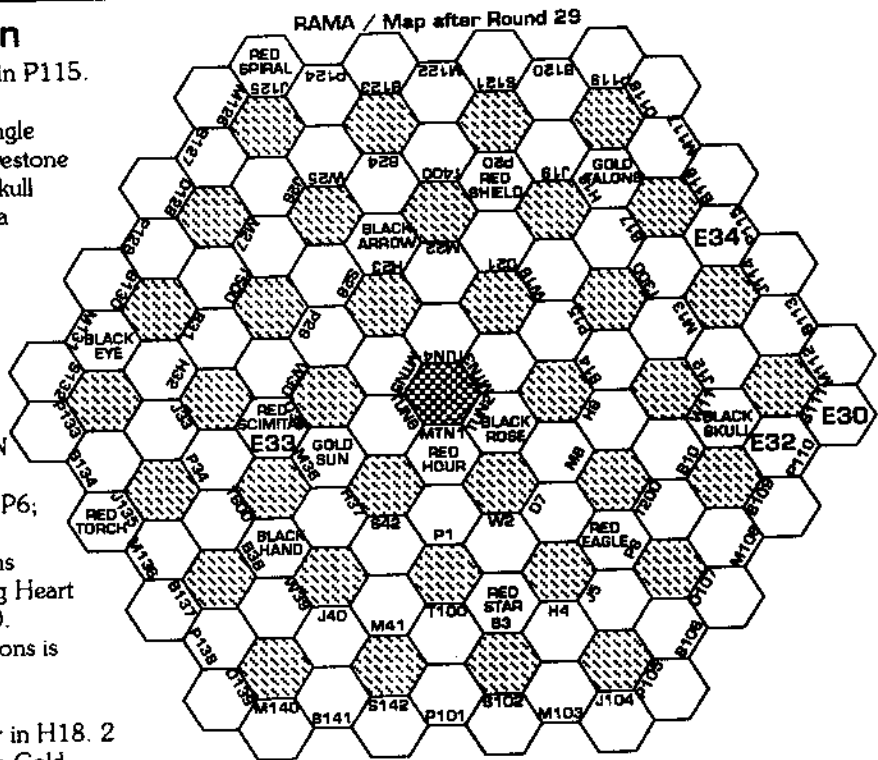
Die roll available for Round Thirty: Black 5, Blue 6, Gold 6, Red 5.

Markers Owned: Red holds the Green and Brown markers.

Deadline for Round Thirty is February 27.

Red: Goodbye Blue, you go the way of Green and Brown and soon-to-follow Gold.

GM note: John Galt asked me to publish his new phone: (707) 557-9655.



RAMA Creature Status

	after rd. 29	orig	box	dead	board
Angel	18	12	—	—	6
Archangel	6	5	—	—	1
Behemoth	18	4	—	6	8
Centaur	25	0	18	—	5
Colossus	10	2	0	—	8
Cyclops	28	0	21	—	7
Dragon	18	16	0	—	2
Gargoyle	21	6	10	—	5
Giant	18	11	2	—	5
Gorgon	25	0	9	—	16
Griffon	18	11	3	—	4
Guardian	6	4	—	—	2
Hydra	10	0	5	—	5
Lion	28	2	21	—	5
Minotaur	21	10	9	—	2
Ogre	25	1	20	—	4
Ranger	28	2	12	—	14
Serpent	10	0	2	—	8
Troll	28	6	19	—	3
Unicorn	12	0	2	—	10
Warbear	21	13	4	—	4
Warlock	6	4	—	—	2
Wyvern	18	10	3	—	5

Jon Carroll:

"Perot talked the talk. That was good. If we could have some kind of insanely wealthy but essentially modest version of Warren Rudman in the White House, someone with absolutely no markers and no debts, maybe it could be the beginning of a government based on a profound belief that freedom and equity are not mutually exclusive ideas.

"But then it turned out that Perot was delusional. Another opening, another dolt."

AURORA / Railway Rivals 1025CN

Holdover

Dice are 2-4-4.

?? (Richard Weiss, red), start at Stockton.

SMOG (Southern Metro Over Gauge—Chuck Mercer, brown), start at L.A.

?? (Pat Conlon), start at Stockton.

?? (Bob Theriault), start at L.A.

WINC (Wordelmann's Inroad to Nevada and California—Bill Wordelmann, yellow), start at Sacramento.

COLTS (Crass Outlandishly Late Train Service—Andy Bate, blue), start at Sacramento.

Deadline for Round One is February 27.

GM to Aurorans: One of you is still waiting for his copy of the game to arrive from Ken Hill, so this game is held over. That's okay, as it gives me a chance to send each of you a copy of 'my' houserules. Orders on file from all players but one.

Although Chuck did not state a color preference, I felt he wouldn't be upset with my choice.

Would you believe I've left myself with an embarrassing white space to the right of this, and I'm even forced to resort to noodling to fill in the bottom of this text box as well??? Incredible.

Stray Quotes

"You shot an unarmed man!"

Clint Eastwood:
"Well, he should've armed himself."

Anne Herbert:
"Practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty."

ARRAKIS / 1991HM

France proposes FIR draw.
France retreats f nwy-bar; Russia retreats f den-bal.

Fall 1906: A Woman's Perogative

Austria (Tom Hurst): a pie flees to switzerland /dislodged/.
France (Don Scheifler—note change of address): f eng-mid, f kie s
german a ber /otm/ (a ruh s f kie, f den s f kie), f hel-nts, f
ska-nwy (f bar s), a pic-bur, a mar-pie, a bur-gas, a bel-hol.
Germany (John Schultz): a ber-kie (a mun s).
Italy (Mike Stewart): f ion-tun, f gre h, f tun-wes, f tyn-lyo, a
tri-ser, a tyo-pie (a ven s), a boh-tyo.
Russia (Eric Voogd): f bal-den, a nwy-swe?, a stp-fin?, a lvn-stp,
a sil s german a mun, a war-pru, a sev-mos, f con-bla, f
smy-con, a bul h, a rum-ukr.
Thanks and a free issue to Tom for playing this one out.



Deadline for Winter 1906/Spring 1907 is February 27.

Germany to GM: Please, please... no anti-mime rules. Sometimes mime is all I got. Besides...
Germany to Russia: ...
Germany to GM: Now that's mime!
(FX: Much wailing and gnashing of editorial teeth.)
Germany to France: You ain't crownin' already, are you? Don't you think you should wait a bit? Ah-uh... you might have gotten about as far as you can get.
Italy to France: A three-way? What about Germany?
GM to Italy: Why not rip his lips off, he seems to do okay without them.
Italy to Russia: The Balkans are military-free except for a lone sentry.
Russia to France: Don't you just hate it when you make some really clever press and then your 'ally' attacks you and the press looks really dumb?
GM to Russia: He wouldn't know, he's never written any really

clever press. (Just kidding, Shyster, just kidding!)
Russia to Germany: I talk too much?! You don't know the half of it, John.
Germany to Italy: You are in a terribly perplexing situation, aren't you? I wouldn't trade my two for your eight for nuthin'!
Italy to GM: Nervy? Nervy?! Who you calling nervy?!
Russia to France: Actually, you're gonna need A LOT of help to win this one.
GM to Arrakeens: And now for the Fond Farewell Section:
Italy to Austria: Who's in your home centers?
Germany to Austria: I sure hope you don't do the pie-tyo thing again. I like Munich. I'd like to keep it for a while.
Russia to Austria: Eliminated. And just in time for tax time.
Target Tommy to World: Bye, guys! It's been fun.
GM to Target: Thanks—have a free copy of this rag!

ARRAKIS / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1905

	g*	bre	mar	por	spa	lvp	edi	lon	bel	hol	nwy	DEN	KIE	1/0	out
Austria														11/13	may build two
France	par													3/2	even
Germany	mun	kie	ber											8/9	may build one
Italy	rom	nap	ven	tun	ser	vie	tri	bud	GRE					11/10	must remove one
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	swe	rum	bul	ank	smy	con	den				

POSTAL MONOPOLY

Order of play is: Deals; Bank Windfalls (underlined); Bank Debts (underlined); Player Debts; Player Windfalls; Purchases, Development; then I report the next turn's movement. * = player holds Comm. Chest Get Out of Jail Free card; † = Chance card.

TUPILE Round Twentythree

player	dice	ending position	windfalls	debts	portfolio
Jason Bergmann	12•5/5	St. Charles	\$200	\$90, \$750	\$46, ori, stj, ind, atl, penav, Park ³ , Boa ⁴ , B&O
Ed Wrobel	8/9	Ventnor	\$750	\$50, \$14, \$22	\$752, ver, StC ⁴ , Sta ⁴ , Vir ⁴ , ny, ill, WW
Roger Cox *	8/8	St. James	\$90, \$14, \$22		\$0, Med ³ , Bal ⁴ , Ten, Ken, Ven, MG, pac, nca
Melinda Holley	7/4	Free Parking			\$845, Con, EC, Rea, PRR, ShL

Development: RC builds four houses on Baltic and three on Mediterranean.
Movement: JB passes GO to Mediterranean, then stops on Oriental and St. Charles. EW can't get out of Jail on his own merits, he pays to move to Tennessee and then to Ventnor. RC makes calls at Vermont and St. James, both mortgaged. MH gets to visit St. James also, then slides into Free Parking.
Cash Shortages: JB will have to break down some buildings. Buildings remaining in Bank: 18 houses, 9 hotels.

Deadline for Round Twentyfour is February 27.
Other Monopoly games are on page 21.

CHUCK YOU, FARLEY / Snowball Fighting ASF19

Turn Eight: Only The Criminals Will Have Guns

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment one	segment two	segment three	new loc	up	hp	sb-di
Friendwood Flinger/FF (Greg Ellis)	K7	collect 2 Sb	RR at SE* (85,11)	RR at IM* (80,17)	K7	12	5	0-0
Ice Man/IM (Andy York)	kit	sit	sit	run up path to N8	N8	12	8	2-0
Mr. Snow Blues/SB (Brad Wilson)	S5	Di at SL (65,55)	collect Sb, -U5-V6	RR at IM* (65,65)	V6	10	7	0-0
Seattle Slew/SE (Daf Langley)	U11	-S11-Q11-P10	RR at SL	RR at IM* (80,96)	P10	9	9	0-0
Slushee Slammer/SL (Chuck Mercer)	S7	collect Sb, -T8-U9	run into kitchen	sit	U5	10	0	0-0
El Zorro de Plata/ZP (Rick Kohman)	T12	collect 2 Sb	RR at FF (80,20)	RR at IM (75,83)	T12	7	3	0-0

Weather roll = 68. Slammer may re-emerge on Segment Three next time.

Deadline for Turn Nine is February 27.

Segment One: Ice Man "toasts his toes near the stove" while nearly everyone else creates armaments (Seattle Slew runs out from under her tree). Mr. Snow Blues is already armed, though, and he lets his Dirigible fly at Slushee Slammer—with a SMACK! he scores three big points and sends the Slam crying for the house.

Segment Two: Ice Man "gets suited up to do battle," just as Slushee joins him at the breakfast nook. Mr. Snow Blues grabs a weapon and runs around the tree to face the door. El Zorro bides his time by hurling a Rattlesnake over at Fling, for a one-point score. Seattle Slew is shooting for Slammer but misses him as he ducks inside. Flinger see that Slew's attractive back is turned and his RR is attracted directly to her!

Segment Three: Well, Ice Man is finally out the door and up the path and everyone is gunning for him. Slew misses as the moving target tears past her, El Zorro likewise can't nail the speeding leader. Mr. Blues just does manage to nail him, and Flinger has the best shot: with IM directly in front of him, he scores to pull himself into a tie for the lead. Next month: The SnowFight Super Bowl!

Slammer to Flingo: Most excellent toss, Flingo! But it seems your supply-sided efforts were a tad off the mark.

Slew to Flinger: Old Gray Mare!! Do you know what happened to the last person who insulted me? That's right—he's not around any more.

Slew to Snowy: I'd be more upset, but it was a great piece of press.

SM to Seattle Babe: Now, don't get tolerant and mellow and all that. Keep your edge. Drink O'Doul's, or whatever.

IM to Slam: Well, it looks lik eyou're next for the kitchen.

Slammer to SnowMaster: Now I know who the bully is.

SM to Slammer: Well, I play the nice guy around here, and Ellis is the sit-in-the-corner neutral, so by process of elimination...

Zorro to SM: Yeah, right, like I revolve my life around lunch with you! Thanks for the "excuse," though.

Rikko to All: The sad part about my life is that it's true! Pete is just so utterly 'spankable.' Not to mention his darling sweet lady, Pollyana (I had to look it up... one 'n'.)

SM to Rikko: I looked it up—two 'n's. So the spelling is weak, but the analogy is still good.

IM to Slew: Hmm... camcorders in the bedroom. What's next, chains in the basement?

Slew to Ice Man: When I said "your butt is mine," I meant it figuratively. If I had my choice I'd take your thighs.

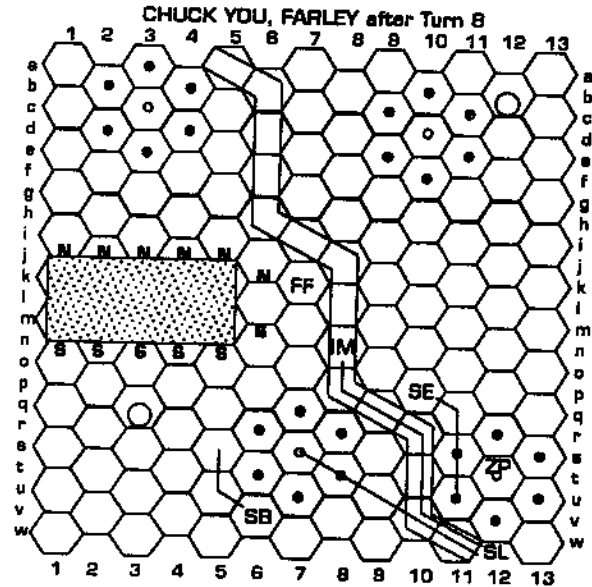
Slew to Snowy: Don't you think he's got nice thighs?

SnowMaster to Slew: Don't ask me, I'm a hip man. (hyork)

Slammer to Slew: You came back with a vengeance, not with a cookie.

Snow Blues to J.R.: Wow! Nice hot cookies for a cold day. Now if I can wing Ice Man with a few Armadillo Eggs...

Highlights from J.R.'s Cooking Show: *[Editor's note: our 'fridge door in Arlington swung wide open if you didn't hold it. During ArlingCon II we scored it Fridge 4, J.R. 2, but even*



four slams couldn't produce scrambled eggs. J.R. later sent a "rubber baby buggy bumper" to glue to the door, but unfortunately it was so small that the door still crashed.]] This kitchen must be 140°F. You'd think it was summer time or something. No way I'm going to cook in this heat; guess I'll check the refrigerator. —CRASH— That's five (sorry about the eggs, Pete). Let's see...oh, yeah, about 3 eggs (glop, glop, glop) in the blender, and whirrr until foamy. Add ¼ cup sugar (plop) and whirrr. 2 tbsp lemon juice, 1 tbsp vanilla, a can of evaporated milk, a package of Dream Whip, and 2 cups of milk—whirrrr once more—and pour the result into this shallow pan to freeze (closing the refrigerator door carefully).

Now to leave Pete a note for tomorrow: "Take the goop out of the freezer, break it into chunks and toss it in the blender with three bananas and some nuts (if you have any). Blend thoroughly and refreeze for homemade banana-nut ice cream."

Now, where did I leave that rum? Surely Cathy didn't drink it all! *[ed: yes, she did, with little help.]* Into the blender we go...

1 oz rum.....¾ oz apricot brandy

1 oz Galliano.....¾ oz lemon juice

1 oz pineapple juice.....1 egg white

...open the refrigerator door —CRASH— that's six. Say! That's a pretty good egg separator, Pete. Where was I? Oh, yeah, an egg white (glop) and now some crushed ice, and zap with this overworked blender. Whirrr...just what I needed! Hey, Daf, want a "Jump Up and Kiss Me"? Just like I made them in the Virgin Islands. (You can have one too, Cathy.)

Snow Blues to All: Hot toddies on me! (I prefer hot bourbon, but...)

Slammer to Slew: Did you try out the massage tables—and did I hear right? Hot Buttered Buns?

SnowMaster to Slushee: If that's hot cocoa-butter, count me in. ♣

WUNDERLAND / International Snowball Fighting ASF23

Turn One: Choose One From Column A and One From Column B... A) Collect. B) Attack Schultz.

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment 1 / segment 2 / segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb	di
Baldrick/B (John McLaurin)	J12	-L12-N12-P12-R12 / RR at DD (95,35) / -Q11-R10-Q9-P8	P8	1	10	1	0
The Bay Bomber/BB (Randy Davis)	C15	De at IP (081,0211), -D14 / collect Sb, -C13-B12 / RR at BF (95,15)	B12	2	9	1	0
Baron Frog/BF (Andy Bate)	D8	De at N (60,22), -C9 / collect Sb, -B10-A11 / RR at BB (95,45)	A11	2	8	1	0
Daf's Daydream, DD (David McCrumb)	V14	collect Di / Di at IP (55,56) / collect Di	V14	0	8	2	1
Flingin' Deadly R'snakes/FDR (Paul Gardner)	O3	build / Snow / Fort!	O3	0	10	2	0
Ice Pike/IP (John Schultz)	O15	-P14-Q13-R12 / BB at DD (60,38) & T (90,71) / Di at T* (60,75)	R12	2	8	0	0
Missing Person/MP (Duncan Adams)	H4	sit / and / stare	H4	0	10	2	0
Nanook, N (Chris Hassler)	L8	-K7-J6-H6 / De at BF (55,27), dodge / De at MP (80,92), dodge	H6	1	9	0	0
Phightin' Phule, PP (Tom Hurst)	W3	-V4-U5-V6 / collect 2 Sb / collect 2 Sb	V6	0	10	6	0
Tantor/T (Mike Magnuson)	U9	-T10-S11-R12 / collect 2 Sb / RR at IP* (85,85)	S11	1	9	3	0

Deadline for Turn Two is February 27.

Rules notes: Yes, we always use the Optional Rules here in *Perelandra*. It has been pointed out that the rules I'm distributing (which are something like March '92 rules and January '91 map page) don't always jibe—I got tired of doing 'definitive' clean-ups on the SF rules so be on the look-out for little, niggling errors. For example: I changed the Snow Fort rules, but I forgot to edit the Mendham Maniac rule—MM does not destroy a Fort. (There is no exception in the rules to the 50% deduction for shooting over a shed, not even on CS.) Weather roll = 63.

Segment One: There's a mad rush for the snowman, and Ice Pike beats out Tantor and Baldrick to get it. Daf's Daydream sits idly by and pats together an extra weapon. Others are also on the move: Nanook runs north to face Baron Frog, who hurls a Demon in his face and takes a step back. Flingin' Deadly Rattlesnakes (hereafter known just as "FDR") begins construction of a Snow Fort! And Phightin' Phule closes in a bit on his opponents. Back behind the shed, the Bay Bomber lifts the first of what promises to be many long-range attacks into the air—it comes down on top of Ice Pike! Unfortunately, one of our players didn't show up this time.

Segment Two: The Bay Bomber and Baron Frog each pick up a replacement snowball and run towards each other! Phightin' Phule and Tantor pack weapons, which is foolish in Tantor's case because Ice Pike is right there to nail him, and DD also, on the other half of a Bolero. Baldrick also hits DD, with a Rattler, as DD tries (and fails) to nail the Pike with a Dirigible. Nanook paints the back of the retreating Baron Frog with a Demon shot.

Segment Three: Baldrick realizes what he's in the middle of and beats a path out of the area, over to the Q7 conifer. DD and PP are picking up more ammo, Missing Person is still missing, and FDR complete his Fort-ress. Up north, Bomber and Baron trade shots, each scoring; down south, Pike and Tantor exchange blows but Pike's is no good. Nanook throws a Demon at the immobile MP—even though his target nmr'ed he can't hit him!

IP to PP: You again!? Just stay on your side of the yard and let me win this one.

Hurst: No press (it's tax time again!).

SM to Hurst: Wimp. All CPAs are wimps. Kill a tree, write press!

Ice Pike to SM: C'mon, Pete, you never watched Mister Rogers' Neighborhood? That was an easy one.

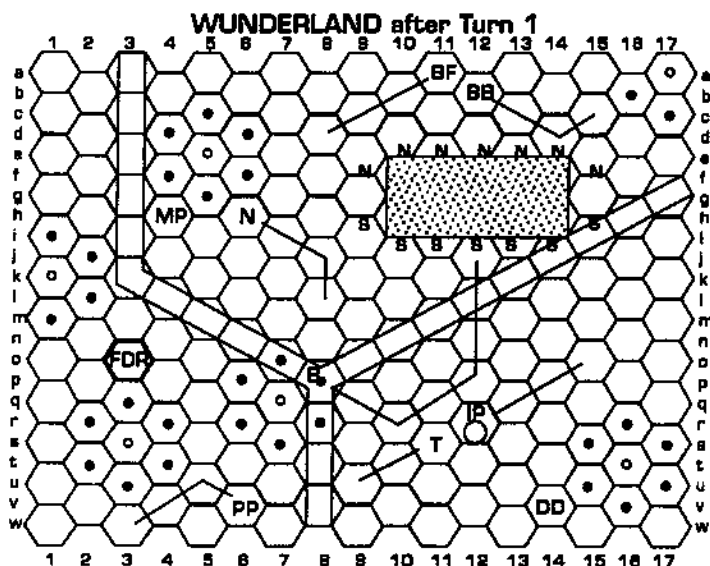
Tantor to SM: Last time was a play off of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. (Tantor - caveman - unk!)

SM to Tantor: It was the name and the 'unk' that escaped me.

Baron Frog to All: What ho, chaps! Chocks away!

Ice Pike to DD: Daf's Daydream?! Ha, ha, ha, haw, ho, he, ha! You wish!!! You gotta pay the *that* familiarity. If she was in this game I'd just leave it to here to squash you like the bug you are. Since she isn't...well, I just hope you're wearing your rubber underclothes.

IP to BB: Howdy Randy! C'mon down here and help me teach this insolent slug a lesson, ol' buddy.



DD to BB: Come on down and join us for the big shootout. We need a few more targets.

NNNW to All: I think it's only fair to warn you... I know where the huskies go.

Bomber to John: Here's one for old time's sake.

Baron Frog to Andy: What, do you mean to say that I don't get to fly a plane in this game?

Cultural Transfer Service: I believe the Baron means Sopwith...

Ice Pike to Tantor: I'm hurt, guy. Your Yeti orders never showed.

Then again, it is the holidays. Maybe post-awful ate them. By the way, duck when you're near that snowman. I'm slappin' leather at anything that moves.

NNNW to SnowMaster: So, you stick me right out in the middle of the yard to be a target for everyone. Do you give all of the newcomers to *Perelandra* the same treatment or do I get special consideration because I live in Southern California?

SM to Nanook: Tantor has the right idea regarding newcomers...

Tantor to Eskimo Pie (Nanook): Better strap on your muk-luks and hole up in an igloo. Unk!

DD to Baldrick: Keep you and your cunning plans north of the path and we won't have any trouble. Move south and I'll have to take your turnips.

Baron Frog to All: If anyone would like a sample issue of my zine, *Froggy? It'll Be Out Next Week*, then let me know and I'll send you one, umm, next week.

Bomber to Andy: Welcome to Wunderland, don't mind the missile whizzing by.

FDR to World: Your days are numbered!

DD to Clones: Get with it. Get some dignity. Get a name. ●

LAMETH / 1992AJ

My apologies. Because I listed Austria at four centers (wrong!), I missed the fact that there are actually three dots still neutral: Spain is the missing center in the chart.

Winter 1901

- Austria (John McLaurin): even, has a ser, a bud, f alb.
- England (Stan Johnson): builds f lon; also has f nwy, a yor, f nts.
- France (Martin Johnson): builds a par; also has f mid, a mar, a por.
- Germany (Randy Havens): builds a kie, a ber; also has f hol, a den, a mun.
- Italy (Dennis Young): builds f nap; also has a pie, a ven, f tun.
- Russia (James Bailey): builds a stp, a war, a mos; also has f swe, a rum, f bla, a vie.
- Turkey (Tim Goodwin): builds f smy; also has f aeg, a bul, a con.

Deadline for Spring 1902 is February 27.

GM to Lamethians: You cannot know how satisfied I am that this has become the new home of 'dueling Golden Age Press'!

Trieste: From the new Capital city, the Emperor was quick to defend the Royal accountant's office, which had tried to prove that the Austrian armed forces should have one more unit in action after the winter. The Archduke pleaded that there was some miscalculation. Some reference was made to the "new math." "We, as a nation, would not be acting honourably if we were to assume something, and take what was not rightfully ours, just because of some erroneous numbers on a piece of paper," were the words which best summed up his brief speech. He continued, "This is how it looks now, but I believe that I will confirm it tomorrow when I consult the cartographers. As far as I know, Albania is still not a Supply Centre."

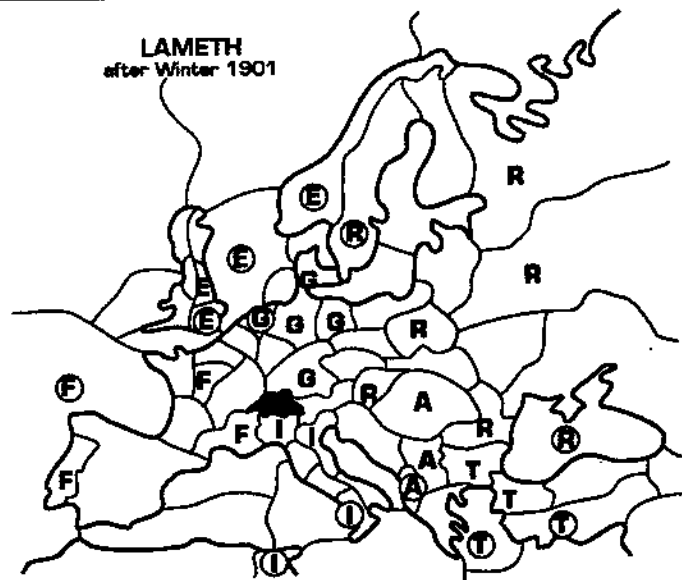
GM to Austrian Officials: I never said it was!

From the book *Contes de la Mere de Oie*: There once was a vintner's son who was playing in the fields of grapes. He ran into a Lion who came from across the channel. He was afraid of this Lion, but the Lion said, "I'll be your friend." Later he encountered an Eagle from the Eastern Skies and to his surprise the Eagle said, "I'll be your friend." Soon after, he encountered a Bear from Darkest Siberia, a Tiger from below the Black Sea, and a Hawk from beyond the Alps. Amazingly they all said, "We'll be your friend!" As he left the vineyard he ran into a Snake who came from the Mediterranean. The Snake hissed, "I hate little boys and I'm going to swallow you whole!" The boy was so scared he ran back to the vines to see his friends: the Lion, the Eagle, the Bear, the Tiger and the Hawk. He pleaded with them, "Oh good friends, I am afraid of the Snake. Please protect me and remove him from the vineyard!" The animals huddled in a circle to discuss how to get rid of the Snake. After a heated discussion, the Lion, the Eagle, the Bear, the Tiger and the Hawk came to a conclusion... They ate the little boy.

GM to La Belle France: A pretty Grimm story, I'd say!

England to Germany: You have committed a grave error!

LAMETH
after Winter 1901



GM to England: That's it, get your digs in while you can...

Moscow: All able-bodied men, age 16 to 48, were delighted beyond belief this month when they received their conscription notices. There was nearly a riot in downtown Kiev as thousands of patriotic citizens tried to be the first to report to the recruiting headquarters. Imperial guards assisted those who had difficulties finding transportation from the outlying countryside. In one case, they even rescued a group of men who had gone camping in Siberia with only the clothes on their backs, then gave them a comfortable train ride to the front. Alexy Tarchenkov of Minsk told his recruiting officer, "I can barely wait to lay down my life for the glory of the Tsar. I'm sure Grandmother can cover my quota harvesting the potatoes." That's the spirit, Alexy!

GM to Russia: It's nice to have an enthusiastic populace. But it's bad form to try to obtain someone else's enthusiastic populace!

Stan Borto in Budapest (Hungarian National Press Service): People throughout the empire have expressed deep concern about the Spanish question, and question reports that the citizenry are to be liberated by the French. There is a spreading trend to refer to Guy LaPlage as "Hussein's twin brother." I am at a loss to explain this moniker, as I have never heard of anyone named Hussein, and don't know what connection there may be.

The *Gay Parisien* claims to have exclusive photos of a certain Msr Renault Citroen meeting with an unknown Italian businessman in a cafe in downtown Milan. The Department of Defense spokesman, Msr Matisse Renoir, denies the existence of such photographs saying, "The general cannot possibly be in Milan, he is currently admitted to the Paris General Hospital trauma unit, recovering from a near fatal gunshot wound that he received during the liberation of Spain." Later, Msr Renoir was overheard to say, "...cafe in Milan has such atrocious coffee, he wouldn't ever conduct our operation there..." to another member of the Defense Committee.

LAMETH / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1900

Austria	tri	bud	ser	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
England	lvp	edi	lon	nwy	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
France	par	bre	mar	por	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
Germany	mun	kie	ber	hol	den	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Italy	rom	nap	ven	tun	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	vie	rum	swe	.	.	.	.	7
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4

STILL NEUTRAL: bel, gre, spa

NICRON / Merchant of Venus

Oops: StewBall's sale last turn was \$220, not \$200.

Turn Five: Heat to Boil

X—Ed Wrobel, Human

Dice are 446. Move: -NC4/n-R-Y-B-Y-R-Wet Landing/o-Wet Landing/s.

Trade: sell Impossible Furniture [*Cup provides Demand for Finest Dust at 5 (Shenna)*]; buy one Psychotic Sculpture.

Accounting: \$10 + \$180 trade - \$160 trade = \$30.

Robocop—Andrew York, Eepeeep

Dice are 222. Move: -R20-NC2-Galactic Base-Y-R-B.

Trade: none. Accounting: \$40 - \$20 penalty = \$20.

Voogd's Venusian Voyager—Eric Voogd, Nik

Dice are 113. Move: -B-R-B-Y-B. Trade: none. Acctg: \$70.

Interstellar Master Traders—John Galt, Dell

Dice are 345. Move: -Y-Y10-Y-Aerie-Y-R-B-R-B-Y-B-? [*Air Foil*], pick up relic.

Trade: none. Accounting: \$220 - \$10 penalty = \$210.

StewBall IV—Howard Hugh, Whynom

Dice are 266. Move: -Cobbleport/o-R-B-R-B-Y-B-R-Galactic Base and stop.

Trade: Barter ship and \$90 for Clipper.

Accounting: \$277 - \$90 trade = \$187.

Ishmael 2.0—Garret Schenck, Qossuth

Dice are 224. Move: -Grandport/o-Grandport/s.

Trade: sell Psychotic Sculpture [*Cup provides Fare to Base from 7b (Eepeeep)*]; buy one Voll Silk.

Accounting: \$207 + \$250 trade - \$140 trade = \$317.

Turn Six: Serve Hot

X—Ed Wrobel, Human

Dice are 226. Move: -Wet

Landing/o-A-NC2-B20-NC2-NC6- TeleGate 4-Space Station.

Trade: sell Melf Pelts [*Cup provides Fare to Base from 4a (Dell)*]; buy one Impossible Furniture.

Accounting: \$30 - \$20 penalty + \$110 trade - \$110 trade = \$10.

Robocop—Andrew York, Eepeeep

Dice are 155. Move: -R-B-Y-R-Bypass-R-B-Y-R10-B10/s -Y10. Trade: none.

Accounting: \$20 - \$20 = \$0.

Voogd's Venusian Voyager—Eric Voogd, Nik

Dice are 345. Move: -R-A-R-? [*TeleGate 2*]-R-A-Ice Station /o-Ice Station/s; discovers 7a culture (Zum), picks up IOU worth \$100. Trade: Buys one Chiclé Liquor.

Accounting: \$70 - \$40 trade = \$30.

Interstellar Master Traders—John Galt, Dell

Dice are 235. Move: -Ice Station/o-Ice Station/s and stop.

Trade: buy one Chiclé Liquor.

Accounting: \$220 - \$40 trade = \$180.

StewBall IV—Howard Hugh, Whynom

Dice are 1446. Move: -Y-R-B-R-B-Interstellar Biosphere and stop. Trade: Sell one Finest Dust, taking advantage of Demand [*Cup provides Demand for Impossible Furniture at 9b (Wollow) and Fare to 5 (Shenna) from 9b (Wollow)*]; buy one Melf Pelts.

Accounting: \$187 + \$110 trade - \$50 trade = \$247.

Ishmael 2.0—Garret Schenck, Qossuth

Dice are 225. Move: -Grandport/o-R-Y-R-NC5-Multi-Generation Ship.

Trade: buy Factory.

Accounting: \$317 - \$100 trade = \$217.

Deadline for Turns Seven and Eight is February 27.

Order of play and dice for Turns 7&8:

1. Ishmael	246 / 155	4. VVV	136 / 126
2. X	156 / 566	5. IMT	245 / 155
3. Robocop	466 / 256	6. StewBall	3446 / 1255

GM note: John Galt asked me to publish his new phone: (707) 557-9655.

StewBall to X: Tough luck. Humans have no luck in space.

VVV to X: I do believe that I'm the butt runner now.

X to VVV: What a horse-race! Your recent reverses (better get that Hyperspace Clutch fixed), combined with Whatzit's brilliant negotiation of two navigation circles have, according to computer projections accurate to a millionth of a Space Currency unit, propelled him into the lead. But don't worry. Our crystal ball sees you entering the Region of Juicy IOUs (along with everyone else). Surely you will prosper.

StewBall III to Ishmael: First is not best, sometimes. And "2"s are not a good die to be first with in outer space.

VVV to GM: 1-1-3?! All I asked for was a measly seven. No comment on the USC lovers (don't know any of them).

Stewball III to Robo: My store will take money, but not junk relics! Not at this time in space, will Whynoms trade, barter, or sell without the buckaroos.

StewBall III to GM: Thanks for the great ship—I'm Stewball IV!

Whatzit to GM: Please make up some bald-faced excuse for my lack of press.

GM to Merchants: Ishmael is a fink! (He told me to say that!)

X to Ishitz: Irregular play, indeed. I've broken nearly every precept of sound play this game. And yet, I still have \$10. Am I a merchant or what?

GM to X: Indeed, one could almost label you "Quark."

BELT 17 / 1993??

Will Stan Johnson please send his \$5 gamefee now?

Winter 1900

Austria (Rich Irving): a vie, a bud, f tri.

England (Les Casey): f lon, a lvp, f edi.

France (Randy Havens): f bre, a mar, a par.

Germany (Stan Johnson): f kie, a ber, a mun.

Italy (Victor Thomas): a rom, a ven, f tun.

Russia (Tom Johnston): f stp/sc, a war, f sev, a mos.

Turkey (Bob Arnett): f ank, a smy, a con.

Rich Irving, 1505 Caceras Circle, Salinas CA 93906

Les Casey, 10 Wrenwood Crescent, Nepean, Ontario K2G 5V3, Canada

Randy Havens, 200 Napa Place, Fullerton CA 92633

Stan Johnson, 10 Pine Street, Edison NJ 08817-4742

Victor Thomas, 22722 Via Santa Rosa, Mission Viejo CA 92691

Tom Johnston, 7509 W. 159th St. #303C, Tinley Park IL 60477

Bob Arnett, 1500 Waterway Circle, Chesapeake VA 23320

Deadline for Spring 1901 is February 27.

Deadline will be extended one month if two players so request.

I hope I remember to enclose a copy of my house rules to each of you. One of those rules is that country selection in *Pere* is always by random draw.

The planet "Belt 17" can be found in Phil Foglio's graphic novel series, *Buck Godot*; it's a planet of vacuum breathers. Thanks to Kay Shapero for sending this name in.

DRUUFON / Snowball Fighting ASF18

Turn Nine: Many Missing Dirigibles

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb	dl
Arsenic O'Reilly (Mike Stewart)	K5	-15, collect Sb	collect Di	Di at OH* (75,85)	15	12	2	1	0
The Blizzard (Lance Anderson)	C9	-D8-F8-G7	Di at AO (75,90)	-F8-D8-C9-A9	A9	7	8	0	0
Box o'Rocks (John Schultz)	Q7	Di at CC (70,97), dodge	collect 2 Sb	RR at CC* (90,90)	Q7	9	6	1	0
Brandy Snifter (Tom Hurst)	U9	BB at CL (65,01) & GMS (55,41) / collect 2 Sb	RR at CC* (85,81)	U9	13	5	1	0	0
Calvin (David Wang)	shed	sit	-G9, collect Sb, -I9	CS at Q7 (85,34;70,65)	I9	12	8	0	0
Cassius Clark (Clark Millikan)	S7	Di at OH (70,70)	collect Di	Di at SC (70,99!!)	S7	18	0	0	0
Clarence (David McCrumb)	S11	RR at GMS (95,26)	run inside	sit	kit	15	0	0	0
GMS (Daf Langley)	M13	collect 2 Sb	run to V8	run inside	kit	10	0	0	0
Half-Baked Alaska (Rick Kohman)	L14	collect 2 Sb	RR at TG (95,76)	-N14-P14-Q13-R12	R12	11	5	1	0
Orel Hershiser (John Galt)	P4	Di at AO (40,91)	-N4-L4-J4-H4	collect 2 Sb	H4	3	4	2	0
Scih (Richard Weiss)	U7	Di at CC (60,93)	RR at BS (95,22)	collect Di	U7	9	3	0	1
Terry Gross (Paul Gardner)	L10	CS at Q7 (90,07;70,03)	RR at GMS	collect 2 Sb	L10	13	9	2	0

Weather roll = 90. This game is being played to 20 vp. So very sorry, Lance, weapons left on a hex disappear unless you're inside a Fort!
 CL may run back out on Segment Three; CC and GMS must sit inside for all of Turn Ten. Holy Cow, that was close...

Deadline for Turn Ten is February 27.

Segment One: Calvin "searches for the secret snowball stash in the shed;" not finding it, he does at least manage to dry off a bit. Arsenic O'Reilly, GMS, and Half-Baked Alaska replenish their stocks, but that's trouble because bending over to collect snow makes you a target. The Blizzard storms down upon AO, ready to attack. Brandy Snifter splits his attention, hurling a Bolero which, all at once, sends both Clarence and GMS running for cover! (Clarence does get a parting shot in on GMS as well.) Over at the tree, Box o'Rocks tries to drop a Demon shot atop Cassius Clark's head, but the branches snag his arm and he misses. Cassius is busy underhanding a Dirigible at Orel Hershiser for three points, to launch him into the leader's chair. Orel throws his own Di at o'Reilly, but can't hit him; likewise, Scih fails to nail Cassius, a shot which would have sent him inside! Terry Gross stands clear of all the commotion and pounds the trunk of the conifer with a snowball, creating a Conifer Storm of falling snow which scores him three VPs (two from BR and one from CC).

Segment Two: With CL and GMS out of the way, everyone assumes that CC is also gone! He quietly gathers white death (as do AO, BR, and CA, who leaves the shed) while attacks flurry nearby. Da Bliz dumps his Di at Arsenic, but misses, even from point-blank range. Scih pastes Brandy Snifter with a Rattler. TG tries to shoot GMS but she's already stripping off her damp mittens. And Half-Baked pegs Terry in the side with a simple Snowball.

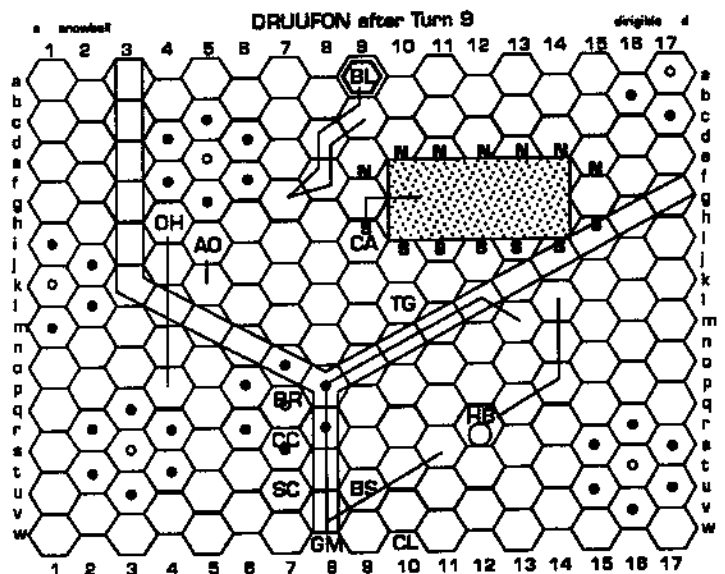
Segment Three: This time Orel, Scih and T. Gross are packing ammo, while Alaska ducks behind the Snowman with his one remaining 'ball. The Blizzard scurries back to his Snow Fort with his tail between his legs. Arsenic O'Reilly tries to retaliate against Orel but is ineffective. Calvin tries the Storm shot and succeeds, picking up three points. BR and BS each realize that if Cassius Clark is still outdoors, he's trouble, so they nail him with RRs. But then all eyes turn to Clark—with no hit points left, his Dirigible at Scih could still win the game. Scih is out from under the tree, just standing up from packing a Dirigible, a clear close shot—and Clark strikes out! CC will take his 18vp inside on Segment One to face the ridicule of Clarence and the GMS.

Clarence to Scih: You just made a Snowball Fighting friend for life.

Anybody that thinks this is more fun than Dip is my type of person.
 SnowMaster to CL: And mine!

'Laska to Goddess: I'm not worthy! Being this close to you, with your tail in my face, only makes me swoon! (read that: nmr) I'm going to the Snowman to cover your retreat, and hopefully your re-entrance.

CL to GMS: Payback time, baby!



SM to Yard: Oh, no! Dick Vitale discovers Snowball Fighting!!
 BR to CC: Yeah, but first somebody has to toss the arching bomb.
 Then they gotta roll twice. Yep... I likes it next to the tree trunk.
 If I get lonely I can hug the bark.

SM to BR: That's tree abuse!

GMS to Snowy: 100! I am not amused.

SM to GMS: I'm sorry, Princess, but your perfection must be handicapped in some way or these fiends will have no fun at all.

GMS to Clarence: I'd be happy to call my boys off. Go stand under the conifer while I talk with them.

Clarence to GMS: Is everybody else afraid to pick on you? Do I have to take it upon myself to send you inside? Oh, all right.

SM to CL: No, you have a little help coming.

Scih to Great Misogynist Snowball: Stealing lines from PeeWee Herman further classifies you as a misogynist. Get a clue, broad!

Or, maybe better, learn to play with yourself in a movie theater.

SM to GMS: Methinks his dictionary is as twisted as he.

BR to BS: Just exactly what are you saying? Air pollution? You can't be talkin' to me. My breath is like a spring breeze, and even my flatulence hints at jasmine. Musta been one of these other fellas.

CL to Calvin & Hobbes: Since you both joined the SnowFights, I have enjoyed your strips on snowball fighting even more. Sunday's was great!

[[there's more Druufon nonsense on page 19]]

JINX / 1990AV

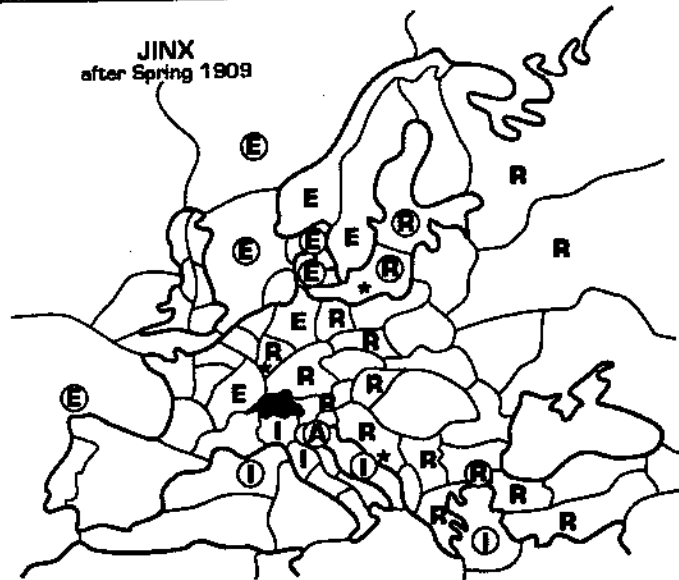
AEIR draw: AIR yes, E no.
 Autumn 1908: Russian f bal-lvn.
 Winter 1908: England builds a edi; Russia builds a mos.

Spring 1909: E, I, E, I, ...oh.

AUSTRIA (Ron Cameron): a tri s f ven /alb otb/ (f ven s).
 ENGLAND (Mike Gonsalves): f bal-ber /pru otb/, a swe-fin, f ska-swe, a edi-nwy (f nwg c), f hel-nts, f bre-mid, a par-bur, a hol-kie (f den s, a ruh s /bel hol otb/).
 ITALY (Richard Weiss): a mar-pie (f lyo s), a tus s austrian f ven, f ion-adr, f aeg h.
 RUSSIA (Kathy Caruso): a stp-fin, f lvn-bal (f bot s), a mos-stp, a sil-ber, a kie-ruh (a mun s), a ber-kie, a bud-tri (a ser s, a vie s), a tvo-pie, a gre h (f bul/sc s), a con ms a smy.

Deadline for Fall 1909 is February 27.

Austria to Russia: Like burnout, the itch to compete will come back—you'll never escape it; I know you!
 GM to Austria: Did you think she had given up competing in this game?
 KK to Hoot: You better watch what you say about Melinda or I'll send McMouth out there to chew your ear off.
 GM to KK: Just so he heads this way around DipCon time!



For those of you who aren't getting the whole zine...
 Ron Cameron, 14790 Amorose, Lake Elsinore CA 92530
 Mike Gonsalves, 530 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801
 Richard Weiss, 554 Liberty St, San Francisco CA 94114
 Kathy Caruso, 636 Astor Street, Norristown PA 19401

JINX / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1908

Austria	tri	ven	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
England	lvp	edi	lon	hol	bel	den	bre	nwy	por	swe	par	.	.	.	.	.	.	11
Italy	rom	nap	tun	mar	spa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Russia	stp	mos	war	mun	ber	rum	ank	sev	vie	bul	ser	bud	con	smy	gre	kie	.	16

[[more Druufon press...]]

Calvin: Hey, anybody want to play Calvinball? It's lots of fun! What, you don't know the rules? Well I'll tell you as we play!
 HB to BL: Well, if that's the way you wanna play, you can have it! My "unreceived" orders last time were "Into the shed, out of shed into Fort!" Killjoy! How much you payin' the SM?
 GMS to TG: No, I haven't done my memoirs. I'm still editing the definitive Toady Handbook. Some people say I just make up the rules that govern Toad/Toady relations, but nothing could be further from the truth. I've done research. However, after the handbook is finished I will definitely look into writing my memoirs.
 GMS to Snowy: Don't worry, Sweetie, I'll use fake names to protect the innocent.
 SM to GMS: Please, name names. I don't have anything to be ashamed of—and Mazzer was never an innocent!
 Clarence to CC: Just you wait. Let me warm myself a bit more, and I'll give you your Di back.
 Clarence to Calvin: Umm, it may take more than a minute to get back...
 Scih to Clarence: Unjustified? Harumpphh! You looked at cross-eyed, that's enough. Double enough.
 Clarence to SM: This is not fair. There must be some rule that prohibits 3 Di and 2 RR at any one player.
 SnowMaster: No way, dude. Live with it.
 HB to CA: You can hide, but you can't run!
 CL to SM: Can I smuggle a Di inside with me if I promise to put it in the freezer? I'd like a little present for Cassius Clark when he joins GMS and myself inside a little later.
 SM to CL: Don't bother taking that thing indoors, Scih is handling returns this season...
 Scih to Cassius: Here's a yellow and black striped dirigible for you.

The urinalysis was positive for metamphetamines and coke, so this is an "iced speedball." The DNA analysis confirms you gave the sample. Having fun yet?
 CI to Rocks: That's ok, just make sure you take care of CC for me.
 GMS to BS: Good call about the game going to 20. I had forgotten it myself. I'm glad you're around to keep our socks pulled up.
 TG to All: Looks like we are currently the longest-running SBF game in Pere—everyone hit CC!
 Calvin to Scih: Hey, why do you suddenly look nice and tanned?
 Scih to Calvin: When you grow up you will understand about tuna fish. For now, though, let me tell Hobbes so he can laugh. The answer is a joke. "The blind man is out for his morning stroll and, passing a fishmonger's, tips his hat and says 'Good morning, ladies.'"
 BR to Calvin: Let me give you a hint, young fella! you spread them thighs and bury your face in it. (Will this get past the censors, Pete?)
 SnowMaster to Rocky: Well, it better, I just about asked for it.
 CL to SM: Has anybody ever been sent inside twice in a game?
 SM to CL: Yes, I know Pete Clark was. I don't recall right off whether anyone else received that honor.
 GMS to Rocky: It seems like I forgot to mention a little rule about Silver Toady status. "Once a Toady, Always a Toady." You can cavort with mortal women all you please, but you will never get away.
 SM to GMS: How you gonna keep 'em down on Earth when they've seen Heaven?
 Rocky to GMS: Yeah... it was nice... but hurried. Sorry 'bout that. We'll try it again some time. Your voice compliments your letters as I was sure it would. I'm sure I was bumble-tongued as usual. At any rate, no, I haven't given up Goddess-worship. I just know my place. Just can't compete with the Golden Irishman.

EDDORE / Gunboat Snowball Fighting ASF22

Turn Four: A Finely-Tailored Straightjacket

WARRIOR	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb	dl
Abominated Snowmonster	B12	RR at GP (95,100)	collect Di	Di at GP (80,51)	B12	5	4	0	0
Chiller Cowalski	Q3	-P4-O5-N6-L6	RR at RS (95,02)	collect Di	L6	6	4	1	1
Felis Negris	S9	RR at IS (60,60)	RR at IS (85,72)	collect 2 Sb	S9	9	2	2	0
Georgie Porgie	A11	collect Di	Di at AS (70,75)	collect Di	A11	4	5	0	1
Ice Slinger	N12	-L12-J12-H12-F12	collect 2 Sb	RR at AS* (95,60)	F12	4	6	1	0
Ricky Skitless	E7	RR at SH (95,24)	RR at SH (95,26)	HH at SH (90,74)	E7	6	4	0	0
Shagmaster	G7	collect Di	Di at RS (70,32)	collect Di	G7	7	4	1	1

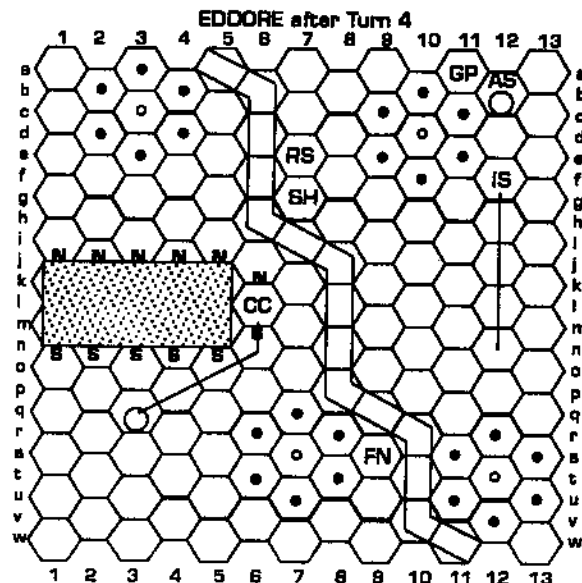
Weather roll = 45.

Deadline for Turn Five is February 27.

Segment One: Chiller and Ice Slinger run north to join the real fun, leaving Felis Negris with nothing to do but lob a long shot at IS (which hits!). Way at the back of the yard, we have two pairs of toe-to-toe warriors. Ricky Skitless pounds a Rattler down the back of Shagmaster's neck as Shaggy stoops to collect. While Georgie Porgie bends over to do likewise, the Abominated Snowmonster tries to smear him as well, but can't even wound him! (Did you lose your glasses, AS?)

Segment Two: Slinger and Snowmonster pack snow and this time it's Georgie's turn to fling and miss. Shaggy punches that new Di up Ricky's nose, but Shag takes another Rattlesnake in return. Chiller joins in with a deadly Rattle-lob at Skitless, while Felis Negris figures, "If it works, don't fix it" and hits Slinger again from a distance.

Segment Three: Lots of weapons are packed but the Siamese-twin battles continue. Shaggy is looking a bit shabby as he takes a third straight injury from the Witless Wonder; Georgie starts hurtin' as Abominated finally wipes the sleep from his eyes and gets his bearings. Ice Slinger joins in *that* fight by managing to nail the Snowmonster even behind the Snowman!



crammed full o' SPAM because Shagmaster did all the shopping!
RS to SH: Well, Ricky Skitless, ok?!

Shag to All: Enough lip service, boys! Let's lay a blizzard on Ricky that will send him straight to the kitchen where he can practice his violin and rub his Mommy's feet while she knits him a new beige cardigan. We'll trust SnowMaster to edit Ricky's press to what we'd hear from outside. Like Ricky to Shag: "Mmmmmph mumble grumph bumfungle bubble bumpff!" Tell me that wouldn't be better reading...

SM to Shag: That wouldn't be better reading...

Ricky to Spam-master: You nasty-tasting meat product, you!

Slinger to Skittles: So have a good drown as you go down with Shag's help.

Ricky Skitless' dog: Forget Kibbles 'n' Bits. I wanna nibble a bitch!

Ricky to his dog: Hey! Spot! Stop sniffin' your own be-hind! Look, down there, A CAT! A Black Cat!

CC to SH: It seems that the RS man is giving you all you can handle.

Abominated to SnowMaster: Santa Claus came down my chimney and put me to sleep! But I'm up now and raging mad!!!

SM to AS: Took you a Segment or two to completely wake up, eh?

RS to SH: Wanna truce while we go slam FN??

SM to RS: After all you've slimed him with??

Slinger to Cat Man: Gotta run. See ya!

Abominated SnowMonster to Georgie Porgie: Fee, fie, fo, fum, I smell the blood of a wee little Englishman! Take that!!

Chiller to SM: That's no cannon. I've been watching Orel Hershiser in the Druufons' backyard.

Slinger to SM: Did that fleabag follow me across the yard?

RS to SH: Well, Ricky Skitless, ok?! ●

Ricky Skitless' dog: Kibbles an' BITS. KIBBITZ!

SnowMaster to RS: Growl growl menacing growl...

Ricky Skitless to Shag-meister: Yeah! Cower! Coward! I love this power/domination thing. Plus, you have the word "Master" in your name. Cool. Ooh, the irony.

Shaggy to Witless: Liar, liar, pants on fire! You said you'd hammer the first guy to hit you twice, and now you're chasing me around the yard after I only hit you once... that last rattlesnake was purely self-defense (and conditional on you being a fink!).

RS to SH: Well, Ricky Skitless, ok?!

Chiller to SM: My most humble apology for suggesting that you do not know how to GM. It won't happen again.

Shagmaster to Ice-o-rammma: Atta boy, icy, help Chiller send that cat to the kitchen (well, Mom's linen closet behind the towels where it's warmest anyhow). How dare he get so many Veeps so soon and risk sending us all home before the street-lights come on!

RS to SM: If you think that for one minute that you can get away with calling me 'evil' just because you're the SM, why, then you'd be right. But I officially notify you that I'm not happy about it.

SnowMaster to RS: It's not my job to keep you happy. Sit down and shut up. (There's more only one Master here who's into the domination thing.)

CC to IS: I do believe the Black One will be the first to sample the buttered rum.

Slinger to Chiller: Turn that black target into a house cat.

Chiller to Black One: Chicken!

SnowMaster to CC: What, are you enticing him over to you?

A true Story: Old Mother Skitless went to the cupboard to fetch her poor dog a bone. When she got there she found it was

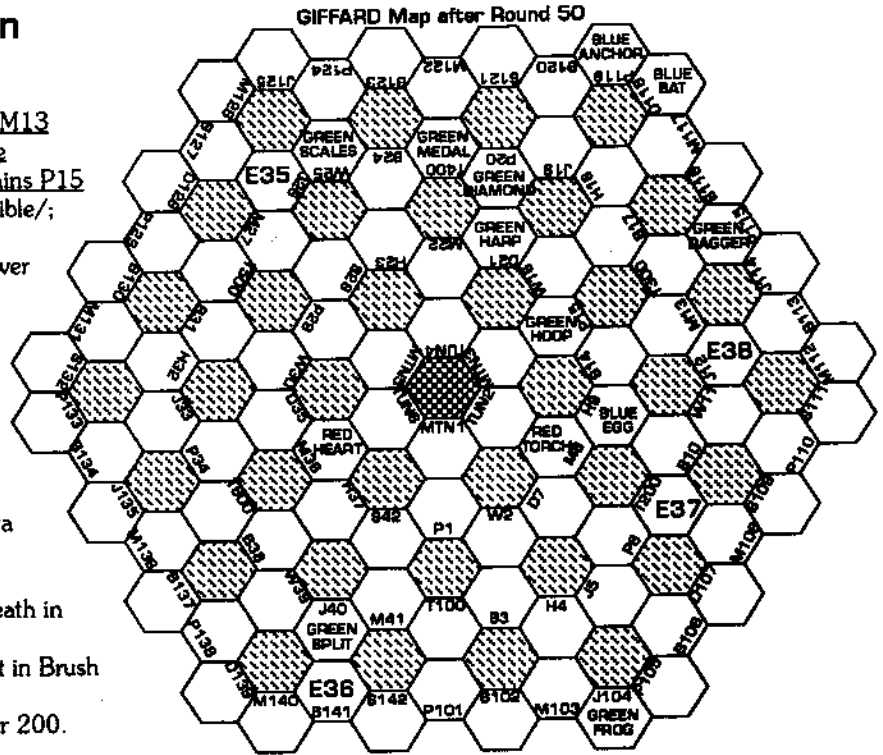
GIFFARD / Gunboat Titan

Round Fifty

BLUE LEGIONS (rolled a 5): Moon Plains P6–Marsh M13 (E37); Bat Brush B123–Desert D118; Cloud Jungle J104–Brush B141 (E36); Lightning Brush B10–Plains P15 (E38); Cracked Egg Hills H9–Woods W16 /impossible/; Anchor Plains P124–Plains P119.

GREEN LEGIONS (rolled a 2): Medallion holds in Tower 400; Harp holds in Desert D21; Dagger Brush B17–Plains P115; Scales holds in Woods W25; Wreath Jungle J26 (E35); Frog Brush B106–Jungle J104; Hook Brush B38–Jungle J40 and splits with Dead Fish; Boiling Pot holds in Brush B141 (E36); Hoop Snake holds in Plains P15; Diamond holds in Plains P20; Claw holds in Jungle J12 (E38).

RED LEGIONS (rolled a 1): Double Eagle Jungle J26 (E35); Torch Tundra 2000–Marsh M8; Heart Tundra 6000–Marsh M36; Star holds in Tower 200 (E37).



Engagement 35: Red Double Eagle attacks Green Wreath in J26

Engagement 36: Blue Cloud attacks Green Boiling Pot in Brush B141. Defender enter through 9–10–11.

Engagement 37: Blue Moon attacks Red Star in Tower 200. Defender enter in Tower hexes.

Engagement 38: Blue Lightning attacks Green Claw in Jungle J12. Defender enter through 9–10–11.

Defender Turn 1s by February 21, please. (I'll be out of town until then.)

Musters, Round 50: Behemoth, Lion.

Point Count: Green 646, Blue 617, Red 485.

Markers Owned: Blue holds the Gold, Black and Brown markers.

Deadline for Round Fiftyone is February 27.

GIFFARD Creature Status

	orig	box	dead	board		6	1	—	5
Guardian	6	1	—	5					
Angel	18	12	—	6	Hydra	10	4	1	5
Archangel	6	4	—	2	Lion	28	5	17	6
Behemoth	18	10	2	6	Minotaur	21	5	12	4
Centaur	25	0	20	5	Ogre	25	0	21	4
Colossus	10	1	0	9	Ranger	28	0	23	5
Cyclops	28	0	17	11	Serpent	10	0	1	9
Dragon	18	13	3	2	Troll	28	0	26	2
Gargoyle	21	4	14	3	Unicorn	12	6	3	3
Giant	18	17	1	0	Warbear	21	12	9	0
Gorgon	25	0	11	16	Warlock	6	3	—	3
Griffon	18	12	6	0	Wyvern	18	14	3	1

ALTHAR Round Twentythree

player dice ending position windfalls debts portfolio

Claire Brosius 7/7 Chest 2 \$100 \$63, Pac¹, NCa², PenAv²

Mark Lew † 6/8 Jail-2 \$42, Med, bal, Ori, Ver, Con, StC, Sta, vir, StJ², Ten², NY², Ken², Ind², Ill², atl, ven, mg, Park², Boa², 2 Utils, 4 RRs

Player Debts: Vince's cash is split \$96 to ML, \$53 to CB. Property to ML costs him \$58 in mortgage fees, but he immediately unmortgages Oriental and Vermont.

Movement: CB Just Visits Mark in Jail, then moves on to Community Chest, where her Life Insurance Matures and she collects \$100. ML is unable to roll out of Jail, but must leave on his next throw.

Cash Shortages: none. Buildings remaining in Bank: 8 houses, 12 hotels.

GM to Claire: I'm afraid you might have misunderstood. Just because Vince owed you \$390 doesn't mean you get \$390!

PYRRUS Round Twentyone

player dice ending position windfalls debts portfolio

Randy Davis 5/12*9 Income Tax \$200, \$44 \$200, \$700, \$50 \$164, ori, con, StJ, Ten², NY, Atl, Ven, MG, pac, nca, penav, park, boa, ec, ww

Mark Lew 11/4* Jail-0 \$700, \$50 \$44 \$53, ver, Ken², Ind², Ill², ShL

Kay Shapero * 6/7 Boardwalk \$939, Bal^m, Med^m, StC², Sta², Vir², Rea, PRR, B&O

Development: ML builds one house on Indiana.

Movement: RD tags Indiana with that new house, then Short Line, and then passes GO to Income Tax. ML moves to Atlantic, then gets sent To Jail. KS hits North Carolina on her way to Boardwalk.

Cash Shortages: RD is, I think, a goner. Buildings remaining in Bank: 14 houses, 10 hotels.

Deadline for all games is February 27.

RUFFIAN / 1990IY

Summer 1906: German a boh-mun.

Fall 1906: Killer Bunny

Austria (David Polley): a lvn-stp (a mos s), a gal-rum, a boh-gal (a war s), a tri-ser, f ven-tri (a vie s).

England (Chuck Mercer): f nwy-swe /dislodged/, f bal-ber.

France (Michael Alterio): a pie-ven (a tus s), a gas-spa, f tun-ion, f wes-tun, f lyo-wes, f yor-edi.

Germany (Steve McKinnon): f swe-nwy (f nts s), f den-kie, a ber-kie, a sil-boh (a mun s), a tyo-tri.

Italy (J.R. Baker): f nap & f tyn s french f tun-ion, a rom-apu.

Russia (Art Shulman): a stp-nwy /dislodged/.

Turkey (Kathy Caruso): a sev h, a bul h, a alb s austrian a tri /otm/, f lon s f apu /eas gre adr otb/ (f apu s, f aeg s).

Many thanks, and a free issue each, to Chuck and Art for playing out these positions.

Deadline for Winter 1906/Spring 1907 is February 27.

Turkey to Austria: Not even a letter from you this turn, if you don't write I'll get sleepy and NMR.

GM to Turkey: You must be drowsy if you just hold and support. (p.s. Did you write to him?)

Germany to Austria: Potential Dot Snatcher!

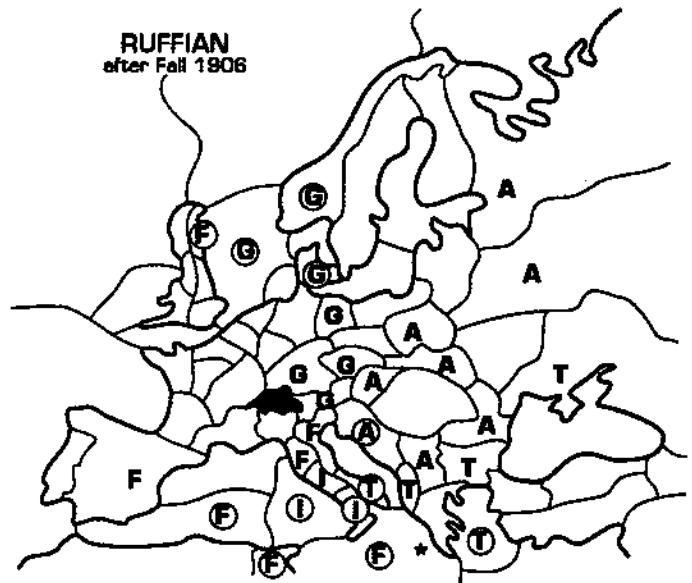
Austria to Turkey: You can be sure I'm awake now—your army in Bulgaria set off alarms all over Austria (if your move was meant to break the tedium, it succeeded VERY well). I have no choice now but to send armies south, but certainly that is no surprise to you. The once-promising A/T partnership seems to have come to an end. I'm sorry to see it go, but I'm not sure what else it could have accomplished—aside from boring us both to death with a static game, that is...

Tyrolian Provisional Government: The peace-loving people of Tyrolia today welcomed the representatives of TIGGER to their new Center for Economic Growth. The pro-German festivities were marred only by the unfortunate, yet dearly needed execution of the Trapp family, a group of terrorists and subversion artists disguised as a music-loving family of people who wave their arms on hilltops.

GM to Tyrol: "Subversion art"? Is that the next wave? Do we find it at maritime museums?

Lening-er, um, St. Petersburg dockyards: Under cover of the long Russian nights two camouflaged men discuss the activities they have partaken of that evening.

Reichshaupamblutenführergesacht PanzerEßen: Unt zo, it iss



dun. Ve haff zabotaged den docken zu den Kommunistischen Flottenspiel.

Olteb"rgleiter Reinsfuhl: Ja, mein Herr. Unt zoon, unserer Flotten mit Severiltenshiffer der Britishen Heeres zu flooren Baltischen gezinken.

Rafg PanzerEßen: Aber off korse. Unt ve aus die Stadt bekommt. Der OsterLoseren Keine shippen aus Peterburgen bekräften. Der krieg is to unsen.

Obl Reinsfuhl: Ja. Victorienshaft!

Rafg PanzerEßen: Exactenbitte!

Turkey to Germany: Anyone who can get that excited over being a three-center puppet, has to be a novice.

Berlin to Con: Yeah, but what you fail to understand is that WE know Eve is your middle name. The jig is up! Winter's here and that fig leaf's gonna brown and fall off and reveal your TRUE nature.

John [Schultz, guest presser] to Kathy: Those guys aren't living up to the 'Ruffian' name, you say? ...boring you to death you say? It's obvious they don't know how to treat the Queen of Dip. Just say the word; I'll come-a-runnin' and liven things up a bit.

Germany to Austria: EE! YORE scaring me! You are a PIG, LET me alone before Turkey starts ROBIN' you of your dots. Then you'll really HOWL. If you KAN GAME with no ROOM for manoeuver, great!

RUFFIAN / Supply Centers Held as of Winter 1906

Austria	vie	bud	tri	ser	rum	war	mos	ven	STP	8/8	even
England	nwy	swe								2/0	out
France	par	bre	mar	spa	por	lvp	edi	VEN	TUN	7/9	may build two
Germany	mun	ber	kie	den	hol	bel	lon	NWY	SWE	7/9	may build two
Italy	rom	nap	tun							3/2	must remove one
Russia	stp									1/0	out
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	sev	gre				6/6	even, or retreat otb and build one

LITERARY QUIZ

You may win free issues of Perelandra by sending in Literary Quiz answers... or by sending in Literary trivia questions. If I publish your question, you get one free issue; if at least three people respond to the quiz and none of them gets it right, you get another. (You must include the correct answer!)

DellS9: Fill in the first names of the following Shakespeare characters, for one-half a free issue apiece:

- Gertrude, Queen of Denmark (*Hamlet*)
- Alonso, King of Naples (*The Tempest*)
- Bertram, Count of Rousillon (*All's Well That Ends Well*)
- Prospero, Duke of Milan (*The Tempest*)
- Tamora, Queen of the Goths (*Titus Andronicus*)
- Orsino, Duke of Illyria (*The Twelfth Night*)

Jim-Bob Burgess got all of these, although he misspelled
[the rest of this is on page 23]

ZIRN / Snowball Fighting ASF20

Turn Six: Make Your Laugh Last

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb	di
Digitous Rex/DR (Mike Magnuson)	Q7	De at S (35,20) -P6	run down path	and inside	kit	10	0	0	0
Hobbes/H (David Wang)	H8	-G9-E9-D10	collect 2 Sb	CS at 57 (65,07;70,13)	D10	11	8	1	0
Katspaw/K (Tom Hurst)	kit	sit	-W11-V10-U10-S9	collect 2 Sb	S9	6	10	4	0
Maelstrom Melli/M (Melanie Winters)	Q13	RR at DR (70,40)	collect Di	-P12-O11-N10-M9	M9	6	5	0	1
Snowpaw/S (John Schultz)	S7	De at DR (65,55), dodge	RR at DB	RR at H (45,89)	S7	7	3	0	0
Thin Ice/TI (Clark Millikan)	F10	run down path	into kitchen	sit	kit	4	0	0	0

Weather roll = 85. Thin Ice may re-emerge on Segment Three next Turn, Rex is inside for the whole Turn.
 Errata: Hobbes' die roll on Segment Three last Turn was 25, not 52. Snowpaw did have 3 Sb to start this Turn.

Deadline for Turn Seven is February 27.

Segment One: With Thin Ice running for cover, Hobbes heads north to take his place under the tree. Digitous Rex takes a parting shot at Snowpaw, and overcomes the dual obstacles of the tree trunk and S's dodging to hit him with a Demon, then steps a bit away. Snowpaw isn't fooled, though, and returns the score as Melli joins in nailing Rex.

Segment Two: Katspaw returns from the kitchen. While Maelstrom Melli and Hobbes recharge their stock, Snowpaw fires off another shot at Digidude. Too bad, DR is running for cover from that last round and is safe from attack.

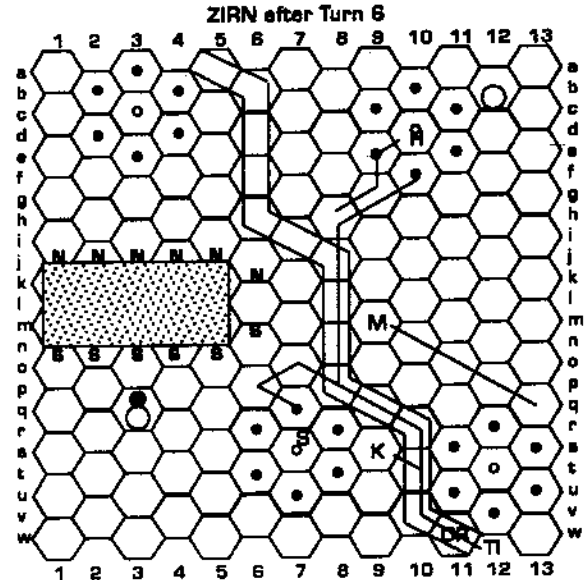
Segment Three: K is still being ignored, uses the time to pick up two more 'balls. Melli runs out into the middle of the yard, just in time to see the fireworks pass overhead. Those are Snowpaw's and Hobbes' shots: S is hurling a Rattler long-range (he misses), and Hobbes tries for the Conifer Storm. The Storm works, dumping two hit points' worth of snow atop Snowpaw.

Snowpaw to Melli: Who's Trumbo?! Oh, stab me in the heart, darlin'! dalton trumbo... author, playwright, etc. Actually, I don't believe he's that great a writer [[Pete here: he isn't]], but he wrote one book that I believe should be required reading for every human being. I highly recommend it and that's an understatement. *Johnny Got His Gun*. When you finish it, let me know what you think. I bet you agree it should be required high-school reading, at least.

Digidude to Yard: Muahahahaha! I am king, let all bow down before me!

SnowMaster to Dude: Check it out, you're king of the kitchen now.

Snowpaw to Digidude: War? This means war? Aw shucks. You don't really want war, do you? Oops. You lose.



MM to Dead Eye Hobbes: If you want to impress me, try repeating your feat. And what's this, are you wearing snowproof fur or what?

Hobbes to Digitous Rex: Hmm... do you have anything else besides tiger nip? How about a tunafish sandwich?

Snowpaw to Hobbes: You're a cute little fella, with your stripes and all, but you're next.

MM to SnowPaw: Thanks for the birthday wishes and family tree. Try calling between 4 and 5 my time.

Tamora. Mark Lew got all and commented that Antonio (*Two Gentlemen of Verona*) was also Duke of Milan—no, Antonio was Proteus' father; the Duke in *Two Gentlemen* (who wavers between Duke and Emperor!) was not named! (Several of you pointed out there is also an Antonio in *Tempest* but he's an usurper.)

Jamie McQuinn got 'em all and added Reignier, titular King of Naples, Sicily and Jerusalem from *Henry VI*. Stan Johnson was right on 5 out of 6, missing Prospero. Michael Alterio got them all except he answered Orlando for Duke of Milan (Orlando was a young man in *As You Like It*). Brad Wilson got all six, good for three freebies, as did Randy Havens, David McCrumb, Tim Goodwin, and Andy Bate.

Trust me, I could've made this much harder, but I've gotten comments from some of you that the Quizzes have been too difficult. My *Riverside Shakespeare* does not have a concordance or cast list, so my own laziness had something to do with the difficulty of the questions.

I've had complaints that I run too many Shakespeare questions, and I had a comment this month that said, "More Shakespeare!", so I guess I'm doing something right. Nonetheless,

I'm going to screw it up for sure and try to diversify the questions a bit. Of course, if you lot continue to send questions in, we'll get diversity by default!

DellJ32: Name the following house from a Jane Austen novel, for two free issues: "as a cottage it was defective, for the building was regular, the roof was tiled, the window shutters were not painted green, nor were the walls covered with honeysuckles." Barton Cottage, from *Sense and Sensibility*.

(Jim-Bob says "oh, no, houses again? Beats me!")
 Stan says, "I tried reading *Pride and Prejudice* once, but it was a combination of 1) not my cup of tea, 2) being bummed out by the dude who blew it with some chick by offhand remarks she overhears, and hates him for; then he sees her and falls in love with her, while she hates him. It was too close to some of my teenage experience."

Michael Alterio got this, as did Jamie McQuinn and Dave McCrumb. Andy Bate suggested Northanger Abbey.

Questions For Next Issue are on Page 24.

VEXVELT / 1992R

Boy was I asleep at the switch. No SC chart changes lastish. Well, they're printed here. I should've asked for Spring 1904 also, since this was not a difficult build season, but since I didn't I can't rightfully require Spring moves as well. Sorry.

AT draw: AT yes, EFI no, GR nvr.

ART draw: AEFT no, GR nvr.

England and France propose AFT draw, and France proposes AFRT draw.

Autumn/Winter 1903

Austria (Michael Alterio): builds a vie, also has f adr, a mun, a boh, a ber, a sil, a ven, a tri, a mos.

England (Lance Anderson): builds f edi, also has a yor, f nts, f lon.

France (Mike Magnuson): builds f mar, also has a pie, f bel, a pic, f mid, a bur.

Germany (Richard Weiss): removes a kie, still has f hel, f hol.

Italy (Steve Nicewarner): even, has a nap, f tyn, f tun

Russia (Russ Rusnak): even, has f bar, a den, f bal, a war.

Turkey (Steve McKinnon): builds a smy; also has a apu, f ion, f aeg, f gre, a rum.

Deadline for Spring 1904 is February 27.

Turkey to GM: Girl trouble? Yes, but, no. An old friend wound up not moving down here, an old friend that is a girl.

Turkey's Babes o'the Moment: Kristy Swanson, Sharon Stone, Shirley McLaine (circa 1960).

France to Turkey: Steve, you wanna talk Babes o'the Moment? you should see my new neighbors! I'm gonna have abrasions on the end of my tongue when swimsuit season starts.

Turkey sings: "I tried to teach her about Marx and Engels, / God and Angels, / I don't really know what for. / But she looked good in ribbons."

France to Russia: F Nor-Bar??!!

England to Germany: Have you been handing out many Iron Crosses lately? Wouldn't think that anyone deserved them at this point.

Turkey writes: What in the content of your look

Aroused me from the solitude I coveted?

Denied the introspection I was watering

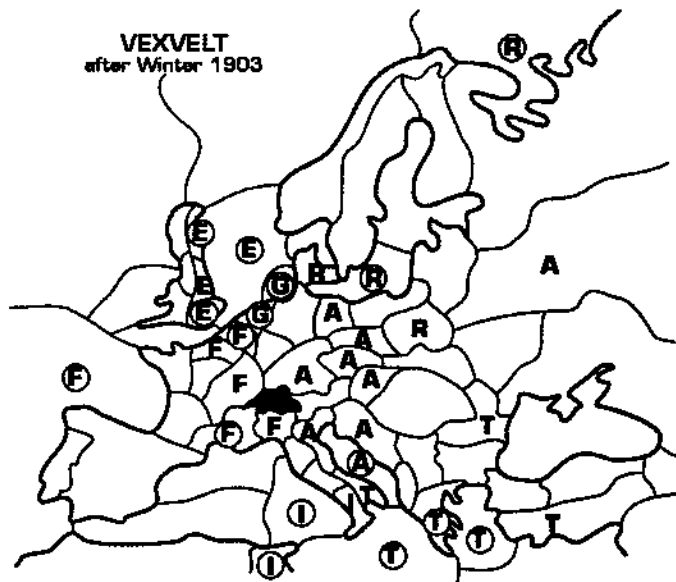
With drinks that filled as quickly as I emptied them?

What was the question asked of me

That brought me here? That dragged

My ass across a room of revelers

To stand before you open to the curettage.



Your expertise is far beyond my willingness
To save myself. A word, a laugh, a heel
And once again I'm left.
A neon blink reflects in glasses' condensate
On shaky wooden tables at the wall.
The polished vinyl bar looks very similar
To this. But fifteen feet away makes all the world
Seem different.

I'll slide another bill across and keep myself
Just far enough removed to stay intact.
Tomorrow when I wake up to the buzzing nag of headache
Or of radio I'll search.
And somewhere in the rumpled sheeting,
Maybe pushed down with the blanket on the floor,
I'll find out what it was you cut and sliced from me
And hold it on until it's me again.

GM to Turk: Not one of your better efforts. Very mundane and without imagery.

Turkey to GM: I, for one, have NEVER lied in a game of Diplomacy.

GM to Turkey: I've had players tell me that in ftf games, and I always use it against them.

VEXVELT / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1903

Austria	tri	bud	vie	war	ser	ber	ven	sev	MUN	MOS	8/9	+1
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/4	even
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	BEL	.	.	.	.	5/6	+1
Germany	kie	hol	den	bel	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/2	-1
Italy	rom	nap	mun	tun	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/3	even
Russia	mos	stp	rum	swe	WAR	DEN	.	.	.	.	4/4	even
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	gre	RUM	.	.	.	.	5/6	+1

Literary Quizzes For Next Issue

JB4: For two free issues, who placed man "on this isthmus of a middle state"? If no guesses, we'll repeat the quiz for one issue next time with a hint.

BW1: In Updike's *Rabbit* series, "Rabbit" (Harry Angstrom) seeks the advice of ministers from two faiths. Which faiths? This one is worth two issues as a double-tough.

Shelf5: For one-half issue, from what novel does the following description come?

"Along 66 the hamburger stands—Al & Susy's Place—Carl's Lunch—Joe & Minnie—Will's Eats. Board-and-bat shacks. Two gasoline pumps in front, a screen door, a long bar, stools, and a foot rail. Near the door three slot machines, showing through glass the wealth in nickels three bars will bring. And beside them, the nickel phonograph with records piled up like pies, ready to swing out to the turntable and play..."

VULCAN / Deviant Dip 92JFrc04

Rules now in effect:

0. Master Rule
 2. More Deviant (all rules with 3+ 'yes' votes pass; certain types of proposals banned)
 3. Veto Power (one 'no' vote kills)
 10. Secret Ballot (voting kept secret)
- No new rules were passed this turn.

Spring 1902: Paying the Price

- Austria (Dennis Young): f tri-alb, a vie-gal (a bud s), f gre-bul/sc (a ser s).
- England (Greg Ellis): a vor-nwy (f nts c, f nwg s).
- France (Tim Goodwin): f bre-eng, a par-bur (a bel s), f mar-lyo, f spa/sc-wes, a por-spa.
- Germany (Lance Anderson): f ber-bal, f hol h, a kie-den, a mun h.
- Italy (Mark Lew): a boh-vie, a tyo-tri (a ven s), f tun-ion.
- Russia (Jason Bergmann): f stp/nc-nwy (f swe s), a war-sil, a gal s italian a boh-vie /war o**tb**/, f rum h (a ukr s).
- Turkey (Steve Nicewarner): f smy-aeg, f aeg-ion, a bul h /annihilated/, a ank-con.

Deadline for Fall 1902 votes, builds and proposals is February 27.

Proposal 22: **Redistribution of Wealth: A Celebration of the Democratic Victory.** Following each Fall season and prior to the Winter builds, the country or countries with the most supply centers must each give one supply center to the country or countries with the fewest supply centers. This transfer takes effect immediately and will affect adjustments for the coming Winter. If the transferring player does not order which center(s) to give away, the GM shall choose randomly.

Proposal 23: **Zombie:** Players never have to remove units due to lack of supply centers (but centers are still required for builds). Any player who has units on the board is in the game, even if he has no centers. Rule 3 (Veto Power) is repealed.

Proposal 24: **Repeal 1.** Veto Power is cancelled and all rules that would have passed were it not for the veto rule are automatically resubmitted.

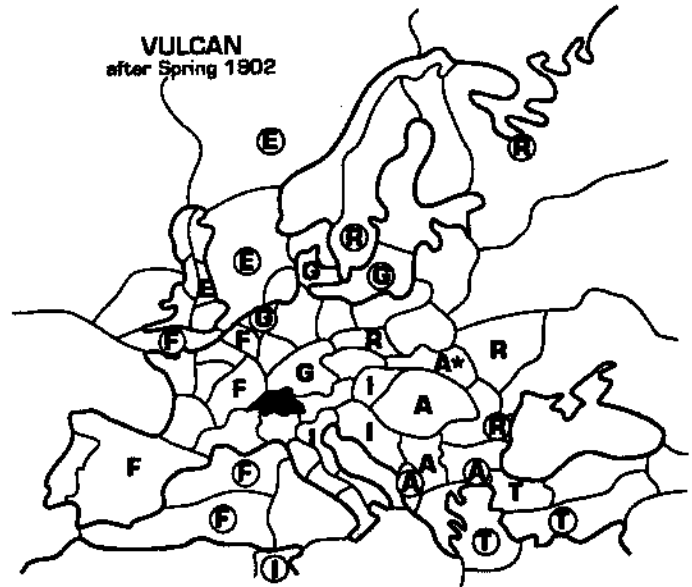
Proposal 25: **Switzerland.** Switzerland becomes a passable supply center.

Proposal 26: **Repeal 2.** That stupid Veto rule is repealed.

Proposal 27: **Offboard Dot.** All players receive one offboard supply center (which does not count towards victory criteria, but does provide one vote and supply one unit) and Veto is repealed.

Press

Boob to Even Bigger Boobs: This game is EBBing (capitalization is



sic, just like my puns). If you guys can't be Deviant, get out and get someone in who can, ... like me!

GM to Vulcan: The previous guest press was brought to you by Jim-Boob Burgess. He and Andy Bate are the designated standbys for this game.

Italy to Austria: I signed up to play Deviant Dip, not regular Dip, and yet last turn no rules were passed. I never planned to attack you, but you proposed the veto rule, and you helped to pass it and use it to ruin this game. My only choice is to take away your dots so you have no more votes with which to veto. Rescind the veto and I'll call off the attack.

GM to Italy: I can see lots of ways for this to backfire...

France to All: I know I cast three votes for the veto rule, but I realize that this game is no different from regular Dip. I have proposed to do away with the veto rule. I hope whoever is vetoing everything will come around and realize that part of the fun of tis game should be to make rules and cope with them.

If the veto rule is not overturned, what would you all think of requiring at least one rule to go into effect each season, regardless of veto?

VULCAN / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1901

Austria	vie	tri	bud	ser	gre	.	.	.	5
England	lvp	edi	lon	.	.	.	.	.	3
France	par	bre	mar	spa	por	bel	.	.	6
Germany	mun	kie	ber	hol	.	.	.	.	4
Italy	rom	nap	ven	tun	.	.	.	.	4
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	swe	rum	.	.	6
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	.	.	.	.	4

Stray Facts

Alfie Kohn's book You Know What They Say... examines the truth behind popular beliefs. Here are a few which turn out not to be true:

Reading in the dark will ruin your eyes.

Having sex before the big game will reduce athletic performance.

Female praying mantises eat their mates. [Only in captivity, as it turns out.]

Carrots are good for your eyes. [The vitamin A which carrots provide does not help those who are already night-blind due to vitamin A deficiency.]

Don't swim for an hour after eating. [It might not be comfortable, but it's not dangerous.]

Spicy food is bad for the stomach.

The full moon makes people crazy. [No increase in murder, suicide, crime or hospital admission rates.]

More people commit suicide during the holidays. [Actually, December is a lower-than-average suicide month—April leads in this category.]

ZYRA / Dip Battleship

Round One: I'm Not Paranoid

Board 1 (Emperor Muad'Dib), 29 salvoes against: A1, A2, A3, A4 hit, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10 hit, A11, A12, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6 hit, B7 hit, B8 hit, B9, B10, B11, B12, C3, E5, G7 hit, I9 hit, K11.

Board 2 (Elric of Melniboné), 11 salvoes against: E8, F3, F7, F11, G6, I4, K2, L1, L3, L6, L9.

Board 3 (Admiral Ishmael), 29 salvoes against: A3, A5, A10, A11, B3, B8, C1, C4 hit, C6 hit, C8, C11, D4, D9, E2, E12, F6, F10 hit, G3 hit, H1, H11, I4, I9, J2, J7, J12, K5, K10 hit, L3, L8.

Board 4 (Apassionata von Climax), 20 salvoes against: A2 hit, A4, A11, B1, B3, B12, C2, C4, D1, D5, E6, F6, F7, F8 hit, G7, G9, K2, K5, K8, K11.

Board 5 (Dirk Struan Tai-Pan), 6 salvoes against: A7, C4, D5, E6, F7, J4.

Board 6 (Yossarian), 47 salvoes against: A2, A4, A6, A8 hit, A10 hit, A12 hit, B1 hit, B2, B3, B4, B5, B7, B8, B9, B10, B11, C2, C4, C6, C8, C10 hit, C12 hit, D1 hit, D3, D4, D5, D7, D9, D11, D12, E5, F4, F8, F10, G6, H3, H9, I4 hit, I5, I7, I9, I12 hit, J2, J10, K4, K6, K8.

Salvoes will not "add up" because of duplication.

Board 1 (Emperor Muad'Dib), salvoes remaining: 17.

Board 2 (Elric of Melniboné), salvoes remaining: 24.

Board 3 (Admiral Ishmael), salvoes remaining: 19.

Board 4 (Apassionata von Climax), salvoes remaining: 22.

Board 5 (Dirk Struan Tai-Pan), salvoes remaining: 24.

Board 6 (Yossarian), salvoes remaining: 15.

Deadline for Round Two is February 27.

GM to Zyran: Whoops, I placed the Tai-Pan in the wrong book.

Noble House takes place 100 years after *Tai-Pan*.

Anonymous; Beware the Runesword.

GM to Zyran: I remind you that press in *Perelandra* is never black, even in Gunboat games. After this turn, all press which claims to be from another player will be labelled with its writer's name. Grey press (which leaves open the question of who wrote it) is very welcome.

Yossarin to Elric: You were in my dream.

Elric to Dirk: One of my favorite series was all of J. Clavell's books.

Especially *Taipan*, *Noble House* and *Shōgun*.

[Some Player Masquerading as] Yossarian to Maps: I say we all start by blasting Tai-Pan out of the water. Who be with me?

Yossarian to Apassionata: Do you have lime-green panties? Have you previously worked as a maid?

Von Climax to Elric: If I hear any whining out of you I'll fire all my guns your way, including a cute little .22 I keep in my... well, you get the idea.

[Some Player Masquerading as] Elric to Climax: I've always enjoyed having a lady under me but you're a distraction right now. Work with me or suffer the consequences.

[Some Player Masquerading as] Taipán to Emperor: The weakest and most meaningless character in *Dune* was the Emperor. He was an impotent fool—and anyone who names his fleet after such a leader must be one also!

GM to Some Player: You weren't paying attention, you've got the wrong Emperor. And for that matter, the wrong fleet of ships!

Von Climax to Captain Gaughan: I thought I would name my ships too. Just like Ishy. The flagship is the *Rutger Hauer*. I also have the *Mel Gibson*, the *Tom Cruise*, the *Geoff Tate*, the *Gerard Depardezu*, the *Tom Hanks*, the *Kevin Costner*, the *Avery Brooks*, and the *John Elway*. Just for the record I am the only one allowed on the bridge of these ships. Sure, I get stretched a little thin, but a captain's got to do what a captain's got to do.

[Some Player Masquerading as] Apassionata Von Climax to Admiral Ishmael: I hate fish. I hate people who love fish. I particularly hate people with a perverted lust for big, very big, white fish: even if they ain't really fish. Die soon.

Admiral Ishmael: All of the names for my ships and captains came from Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. Where a ship's captain was not mentioned in the book, I chose a member of the *Pequod's* crew to be her commander.

Climax to Ishmael: Where's that big strong guy with the great tattoos?

GM to Climax: Right behind you... and turning into the wind!

Captain Ahab, *Pequod*: Ship ahoy! Have ye seen the White Whale?

Yossarian to Ishmael: I know your quod is pea-size, why advertise?

Von Climax to Taipán: Oh, you big strong handsome brute you. Why don't we pick up some chicken chow mein and go to my place?

Tai-Pan to Muad'Dib: We could use some of that melange in Hong Kong. We have plenty of opium dens already set up. Care to sell me a freighter load or two?

Emperor Muad'Dib to Everyone: You realize, of course, that I was born and raised on a water planet. Just because I now rule *Dune* doesn't mean I've forgotten my roots. Spice to all who respect my banner.

GM to Muad'Dib: "roots. Spice..."? Very bad pun.

Zines from Other Worlds:

Baby Split — "for deviant bowlers." Midsize, 20-page, odd bits, bowling cartoons. \$2.50, P.O. Box 7205, Minneapolis MN 55407.

Big Whoop — Newsprint alternative music zine for the "twetynothing" generation. Reviews, letters, photos and interviews. Free, 614B Haight Street, San Francisco CA 94117.

Independent Biker — Professionally printed, FAD-style zine for radical motorcycle riders (Pat, are you listening?). Calendar listing, technical articles, race results, features. Free, 1339 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94103. Big format.

No Longer Silent — Small but hefty cut-and-paste (no computers used) zine dedicated to "creating a tangible, community-based anarchism in our own lives." Articles, drawings, radical politics. \$3, or a five-issue subscription for \$10. P.O. Box 3582, Tucson AZ 85722.

Processed World — High-tech, glossy, 48-page zine for disenchanting workers in the Financial District. Radical politics, poetry, fiction and nonfiction. \$3.50 an issue, four-issue subscription for \$12. 41 Sutter Street #1289, San Francisco CA 94104.

Prosodia — A thick, eclectic, glossy-cover collection of poetry. Some good stuff in here. Donation of \$5 to \$10. Write to the New College Poetics Program at 766 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110.

Queer Zine Explosion — A listing of about 200 mostly queer zines, with some nonqueer-specific zine resources thrown in. Title, price, address and brief description of each zine given. \$1, four-issue subscription for \$2, send two 29-cent stamps. P.O. Box 5911275, San Francisco CA 94159-1275.

Whispering Campaign — Great-looking literary zine, fiction poetry, drawings and photos, professionally printed with little extras on the inside—a cigaret burn, sealing wax and seeds taped to the inside cover. Unfortunately no address listed, \$4, check your local alternative bookstore.

PLAYER ROSTER

bold = new address; * = no nmr insurance (if I have your phone # and you accept collect calls, then you have nmr insurance)

- Duncan Adams, 5 Hedge End, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN3 2PQ U.K.
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GAME OPENINGS / ZINE BUSINESS / HOBBY STUFF

circulation of this issue, not counting free samples: 82

BELT 17/Regular Diplomacy (\$5 gamefee): Les Casey (pd), Victor Thomas (pd), Rich Irving (pd), Tom Johnston (pd), Randy Havens (pd), Bob Arnett (pd), Stan Johnson. Gamestart inside.

Accepting requests for what you want the next game opening to be. Mark Weseman suggests a 'monster' game such as Cline-9 Youngstown, or a Machiavelli game (Chris Hassler also piped up for Mach). Right off the bat, I have to eliminate any game I've not played before, and that includes Mach. Nobody jumped right up and asked for Gunboat, so I'll keep looking for something a little more unusual.

Poets' Corner (Standby Calls!): none this issue!

The Poets are for Diplomacy: Baker, KCaruso, Cox, Davis, Hurst, SJohnson, Magnuson, McKinnon, McLaurin, Mercer, Shulman, Stewart, Voogd, York.
 For Dip variants: Baker, Bate, Davis, Hurst, McCrumb, McKinnon, Stewart, York.
 For others: Anderson (Titan), Cox (Monopoly), Gardner, Langley (SF), McCrumb, Millikan (MoV).
 A free issue to each standby when he picks up a game and when he plays it out (subber currently in fewest games will be chosen first.).

International Subscription Exchange

I am the North American representative. If you want to sub to a U.K. or Australian zine, send US or Cdn money to me and I'll arrange it, avoiding currency exchange fees. Canadian cash accepted at 1-to-1 with U.S.; Canadian checks will get about 75¢US on the Cdn dollar. Canadians can buy postal money orders in US funds much more easily than vice versa, check out the rates.

Dipcon XXVI—September 3-6, 1993

I'm publishing a free bimonthly newsletter, *DIPCONVERSATION*, about Dipcon 1993. *Pere* subscribers will get it free; others may get on the list for all issues just by sending one SASE.

Free Issues Available

A free issue (for each name) to the first person who can tell me where these planet/game names came from (I've lost my notes on these): Marna, Nordeen, Rathillien, Quwhon, Lakkdarol. If you give me the hint that leads to an answer you'll get credit.

Freshman Zine Tracking

If you are aware of a zine which published its first three issues in 1992 (or very late 1991) other than the following, please let me know right away: *36 Miles of Trouble*, *Zero Sum*, *¡GOL!*, *Loco Motives*, *Foolhardy*, *Pennant Madness*, *Election Headquarters*, *Aren't...?*, *Metamorphosis* and *Rainbow Warrtor*. For the purpose of the Freshman Zine Poll, 1993 start-ups will include *Call Me President*, *Making Love in a Canoe*, *Wild Gypsy Rose*, *off-the-shelf* and *Standard Gauge*. 1993 Freshmen already include *Cogniscent!* and *The Swiss Observer*.

- Ed Wrobel, 6204 Bardu Avenue, Springfield VA 22152
 Andrew York, Box 2307, Universal City TX 78148
 Dennis Young, 22420 Fuller Avenue, Hayward CA 94541

What's Inside

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10	Brotisserie League / announcement
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8	Among the Trees / on "why environmentalism?"
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25	Wives' Tales
26	Zines from Other Worlds Hobbies
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Vince Lutterbie:

Please issue a Boardman Number for Belt 17 (page 17).



**printed on
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Perelandra

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