

A couple of important developments:

1) The Post Office have informed that, in fact, stapled self-mailers do not receive the same handling as first class mail in envelopes. They must be hand-sorted rather than mathine-sorted, and this adds at least one day delay each time they are handled in an area where machine sorting is in use. As a result:

(a) I have purchased some envelopes and developed a system for printing return address, etc., on them. All players' copies will henceforth be sent out in envelopes. (Subscribers', I should say, non-players, will continue to be sent stapled copies, as time is not as crucial for them.) There will be no increase in subscription rates, despite the extra cost of envelopes.

(b) All games sent out in the pre-envelope era will be delayed a week if orders are missing. This affects all games whose deadlines are Mar. 5 or

earlier.

2) It has become evident that the postal deterioration is a very real one. For example, one US subscriber (er, player) reports that RUNESTONE regularly takes 10 days to reach him, sometimes longer. While a few days may be shaved off this by my converting to envelopes, this is nevertheless too slow to permit proper play on 4-week deadlines. As a result, all games with US player will convert to 5-week deadlines, all overseas games will run on 6-week (at least) deadlines. 7-week deadlines will be considered for some overseas games if the players indicate a need:

I'll try to keep this issue short, as next week looks to be a very busy one. I have quite a bit of material on hand, much of which I'll try to get into the Feb. 19 issue.

into the Feb. 19 issue.

(later) Well, here it is Monday, and only one game has all orders in, so we'll go with that, as well as Julian's game....

Game 1977AP, Winter 1906/Spring 1907: AREA OF WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN SHOWS HIGHER POLLUTION COUNT DUE TO DISCARDED PASTAS!

One goof: the Austrian orders last season should've included "a war unordered".

Austria (Harry Drews): (Built a vie); a war-pru; a boh-sil; a vie-boh; a mos-stp, s by a lva; a ukr-mos; a tri h; f alb h; a bul-gre; a rum-bul; a ank-arm.

England (Dave Ditter): (Retreated f mid-nat); a stp h, s by a nwy;

f den-kie: f nat-mid; f nth-bel, s by f eng; f iri s f eng.

France (Heiki Walk): f bre s f mid; f mid s f bre; a bel h, s by a bur;

a pic-par.

Italy (Ken Wilkie): (Built a rom, f nap); f aeg-ion; f con h; a ven-tyr; a mun-kie, s by a hol; f lyo-spasc; f spasc-por; f tun-naf; f wes s Fre f mid; a rom-ven; f nap-tyr.

Monday. March 19 is the Fall deadline. See page 2 for the press.

Shenandoah (1978J) Spring 1902: EVENTS IN GASCONY AND GREECE CAUSE MAJOR CHAIN REACTIONS! RUSSIA OGLES AUSTRIA!!

Austria (Vike Cerroll): f adr - ven, a tri s f adr - ven, a ser - pre, a bud - ser

England (Fred Weidemeyer): a bre - gas, f eng - bre, f lib - iri, f lon - eng, f nwy - nth.

France (Dave Quesnelle): f por - mao, a pic - par, a bur - gas,

Germany (Blair Cusack): a ruh - bur, f hol - bel, a kie - den, a mun - ber.

Italy (Patrice Villeneuve): a ven - pie, f tun - ion, a rom - ven s by a apu.

Russia (Doug Varnes): f swe - den, a stp - mos, a sil - boh, a war - gal,

a rum - bud, f bla - rum.

Turkey (Randolph Smyth): a bul - pre, f ank - bla, a con - bul, f smy - aeg.

## Tress:

<u>Parlin</u>: I've got so much god-damned mail from everyone to <u>everyone</u> else I'm afraid to send letters!

Tieffried: Hmmm...sounds like there's some heavy deplomacy going on ...

How about some more press, guys? Cryptic messages, violent attacks, sneaky insults, outright defamation; I'll take anything!

Till next time. Julian.

The Fall deadline is <u>Monday</u>, <u>March 5</u>. And that's all <u>I've</u> got to say....

KINGOFKISSINGDYINGOFFICERSFAREWELLCFNELSON)(B)HAVEYCUWRITTENTOYOURMUMMY?("VOUS

## 1977AP Press:

Rome to London: Dave, you've got to be joking! Please feel free to resign at your earliest convenience. We'll award you fourth place for your tremendous strategy and diplomatic skill. As for the Canada-US thing, don't flatter yourself - the name of the game is "Diplomacy", and you blew it.

AVEZECRITAMAM?")(C)HAVEYOUCLEANEDYOURTEETH?(CFKISSINGDYINGOFFICERSETC)(D)ARE

one benefit you get from my using envelopes is an extra 1/3 of a page per issue (except for the end-of-month issue, since I'll send non-players' copies in stapled form). Now, how to fill it?....

copies in stapled form). Naw, how to fill it?....

Hugh Polley set me straight on the interpretations to be drawn from my
financial statement in #234: The cash flow position is good but the balance
sheet doesn't look healthy. So there you are, for those of you who care
about such things...

I have a bad cold, am feeling rotten, and have a very heavy week coming up; my next uncommitted evening looks to be next Sunday. It's a full life... Plus, I'm in a transition period at work, easing into the driver's seat of CR. So I'm just as happy to have a short issue this week. See you.... CHIMO!