



R a m b l i n g s w a y



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November 1991

Issue #13

Circulation: 43

To start off with, some officialdom: The subzine MODERN DIPLOMACY will not appear in this issue. It seems that the higher-ups in the State Department had some reservations about the first column (even after they had over a month to review it). Somewhere inside is the official correction to the column. Hopefully the bugs can be worked out for MD to return next month.

Next, no, I did not move. The masthead in the last issue had two errors in my address. A few eagle-eyed readers caught them; Fred Davis catching the wrong number in my PO Box and Jack McHugh discovering the switched numbers in my CompuServe address.

Unfortunately, I didn't catch the errors until after the issue was mailed. I talked with the postal folks, and they were very helpful and agreed to put my mail in the proper PO box. I did have a few letters sent to the wrong address arrive without any delay.

The Post Office DOES do a great job most of the time. Thank a postal worker today -- this hobby wouldn't exist without them. My post office (Universal City) go out of their way to be kind and helpful.

Now, after the kudos, the post office did cause problems with one game. "Whad' Ya Know" has to have the last turn rerun. An issue of RW did not arrive at a player's house, so an NBR resulted.

For the record, I will ALWAYS mail something to each and every player by the tuesday after the deadline. If RW is not ready, a postcard will be sent informing the players of the delay. The other side of the coin is if you are a player and you have not received something from me within, say, two weeks of the deadline -- let me know as there is a problem in the mail. Note, this is now official policy; if you don't receive an issue, let me know BEFORE the deadline.

Last postal related comment, the Christmas season is upon us. One of the traditional holiday events is a slow down of mail service due to the volume mailed during December. The bottom line is send moves in EARLY -- they can always be revised, if necessary, at a later date by mail or phone.

New subbers and new trades for RW are listed inside. I've been trading with Eric Ozog for a bit and haven't mentioned it (RAMBLINGS BY MOONLIGHT -- 'zine of the Orphan Service Director). Also, YOUR 'ZINE OF 'ZINES is a trade. I've just received my first issue of the 'ZINE REGISTER. The review of RW was complimentary, though I'm not sure about adding maps.

As a reminder, I'll be out of town until early December vacationing in Michigan (and attending a Mensa RG). Enjoy the holiday season -- and remember, it is a Season of Giving (be generous to your local charities and think about volunteering to help those less fortunate).

STAFF/SUBZINE ADDRESSES

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TRADES

THE ASSASSIN'S BLADE by John Galt (701 Welch Rd., #323; Palo Alto, CA 94304-1705) has Fog of War openings. Runs Character and Reg Dip.

EXCELSIOR by Bruce McIntyre (6636 Dow Ave., #203; Burnaby, B.C.; CANADA V5H 3C9) has an irregular publication schedule, but an excellent commentary section and lettercol.

THE GAMERS' 'ZINE by Earl Whiskeyman (27 Mark St.; Milford, CT 06460) has regular and gunboat games, En Garde! and Machiavelli.

ORPHAN SON by Bob Hartwig (6612 W. 113th Ave.; Westminster, CO 80020) hosts orphaned games. Has commentary, a lettercol, subzines with Gunboat and Civilization games and other features.

PONTEVEDRIA by Phil Reynolds (2896 Oak St.; Sarasota, FL 34237) list of 'zines with game openings.

RAMBLINGS BY MOONLIGHT by Eric Ozog (9509-209th Ave., E; Bonney Lake, WA 98390) the 'zine of the Orphan Service Director.

THE TACTFUL ASSASSIN by Eric Young (4784 Stephney Rd., RR #2; Armstrong, B.C.; CANADA V0E 1B0) has Regular, Gunboat and Asian Dip openings. Features a lettercol and commentary.

YOUR 'ZINE OF 'ZINES by Jack McHugh (280 Sanford Rd.; Upper Darby, PA 19082) and Doug Kent -- the Siskel & Ebert of 'zine reviews.

'ZINE REGISTER by Garret Schenck (40 Third Pl., Basement Apt.; Brooklyn, NY 11231) reviews just about every 'zine in the hobby

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SUBSCRIPTION: Cost per issue is "postage + \$.04/page". Send a check to establish the subscription (\$10.00 is recommended) and I'll keep track of your balance and inform you when it gets low. Trades are welcome, just contact the editor for details. Back issues \$1.00 each. Samples are free, a stamp is appreciated.

GAME FEES: A \$5.00 NMR fee is collected for each game. It is refundable if you play the game until completion or your elimination. A subscription to RAMBLING WAY is necessary to play.

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS: A complete, up-to-date, subscription list is available at any time for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

HOUSE RULES: The second edition is available upon request. All games except RW #1 are, or will be, run using these rules.

"Thistle and Shamrock"

MENSA #35 -- RN: 1991A

Summer 1904

Russian F swe-NWY

Fall 1904

Turkey (Grose): A arm-ANK, A BUL s f gre, F GRE s f eme-ion, F eme-ION
F BLA s a bul

Russia (Kohnke): A stp-FIN, A MOS s f sev, A WAR holds, A RUM-bul
F SEV s a rum (imp), F NWY holds

Italy (Polak): F rom-TUS, A apu-VEN, A TUN s french f wme-naf (nso)
F ion-gre (r-nap/apu/adr/alb/otb)

England (Kilmer): NMR; F lpl holds <<DISBANDS>>

France (Hight): A bur-BEL, A mar-BUR, A PIE-tyl, A WAL s f cly-lpl
F nth-HOL, F cly-LPL, F wme-TYN, F ENG s a bur-bel
F LYO s f wme-tyl

Germany (Baumeister): NMR; A MUN, A PRU, F DEN, F SWE all hold
a bel hold (r-pic/ruh/otb).

Austria (Harris): A SER-bul, A GAL s russian a rum, A TRI-tyl

CENTERS/BUILDS

Turkey (5):	Con/Ank/Smy/Bul/Gre	= EVEN (due to annihilation)
Russia (6):	Mos/StP/Sev/Nwy/War/Rum	= EVEN
Italy (4):	Rom/Nap/Ven/Tun	= EVEN (+1 if retreat otb)
England (0):	ELIMINATED FALL 1904	
France (10):	Par/Bre/Mar/Por/Spa/Lpl/Lon/Edi/Bel/Hol	= +1
Germany (5):	Ber/Kie/Mun/Den/Swe	= EVEN (+1 if retreat otb)
Austria (4):	Vie/Tri/Bud/Ser	= +1

DUE DATE for

Autumn/Winter 1904 & Spring 1905

December 26, 1991 at 12:00 noon

Would Vince Lutterbie (or Lindsey) submit standby orders for Germany.

ADDRESSES

Baumeister, Konrad; 3241 W. Colony Dr.; Milwaukee, WI 53221
(414) 281-7947
Grose, Jim; 3-1313 Wellington St.; Ottawa, Ontario; CANADA K1Y 3B1
(613) 728-8493
Harris, Stora; 2601 Westward, #508; San Antonio, TX 78227
(512) 674-4707
Hight, Marc; 446 Conradi, #A-317; Tallahassee, FL 32304; (904) 222-9521
Kilmer, George; 610 West Ave.; Holdrege, NE 68949; (308) 995-8008
Kohnke, Peter; 340 Fruitwood Dr.; Bethel Park, PA 15102
(412) 854-1835
Polak, Samuel H.; 221 Eddy St., Basement Apt. #2; Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 256-1536

PRESS

Dateline Paris (Reuters): The French President and Cabinet have just announced their resignation. The mass resignation of all the highest members of the government came as little surprise to the populace at large, although foreign correspondents in the capital have expressed some shock. Factors cited as crucial to the resignation included a naive and indecisive foreign policy and a recent series of minor, but morale breaking, military reverses. The new government will be headed by Le Pin, a right-wing ex-military politician known for his espousal of monarchism. Upon being sworn in as President, Le Pin gave an inaugural address which is surely destined to set the stage for France's foreign policy. He said, "Let those who wish to firmly embrace the French and walk with us openly and unabashedly into the sun come forward; the rest shall be removed so they will cast no shadows on this great new Europe."

(Turkey) Sultan Jim the Great, having recently shot himself in the foot, spent the summer recuperating.

(Turkey) The Black Sea remains Turkey's and shall never be surrendered. The fate of the Sultan's forces elsewhere may depend in part on others: France, which has displayed difficulty mounting a coordinated joint attack (and can't keep a secret); Austria-Hungary, which broke a deal with us at the first possible opportunity (and is a puppet of Italy); and Russia, which for some strange reason will not return our former possession of Sevastapol without a fight!

RAMBLING WAY NOTES

01) I've been checking into cashing foreign checks, and it is too darned expensive. My bank charges a minimum of \$4.00 per check; while a bank I talked with charged a flat \$20.00. So, if you don't live in the US, you can send a draft in US funds from your bank (no charge on this end) or your representative on the International Subscription Exchange.

02) Next November, the area code in the San Antonio area will change. In the phone company's infinite wisdom, changing SA would cause more people problems; but save the State Government some. The new code will be (210) -- I'll put out notices when the change nears.

"WHAD' YA KNOW"

RW #2 -- MN: 1991Wrb32

Winter 1901

Turkey (): Builds F Ank, A Smy; Has A GRE, BUL, SMY, F BLA, ANK
Russia (): Builds F Sev; Has A RUM, GAL, F ARM, BOT, SEV
Italy (): Has A TYR, VEN, F ION
England(): Builds A Lon; Has A NWY, LON, F NTH, ENG
France (): Builds A Par, Mar; Has A BRE, SPA, PAR, MAR, F POR
Germany(): Builds A Ber, F Kie; Has A HOL, RUH, BER, F DEN, KIE
Austria(): Has A BUD, VIE, F ALB
If you're playing, a red checkmark will be next to the country's name.

CENTERS

Turkey (5): Con/Ank/Smy/Gre/Bul
Russia (5): War/Mos/Stp/Sev/Rum
Italy (3): Rom/Nap/Ven
England(4): Lon/Edi/Lpl/Nwy
France (5): Bre/Var/Par/Spa/Por
Germany(5): Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol
Austria(3): Bud/Vie/Tri
Neutral : Swe/Tun/Ser/Bel

DUE DATE for

SPRING 1902

December 26, 1991 at 12:00 noon

NOTE: Due to a demonstrated mailing error (the Russian player never received issue #11 of RW), the Russian build for Winter 1901 has been accepted. Spring 1902 orders are on-hand for all countries except Turkey. If no revised orders are received by the deadline, the orders on-hand will be used. All press is being held for the next issue.

MODERN DIPLOMACY
(the correction)

Replace the last few sentences of last month's column with the following:

"...of U.S. space technology. Both countries are considering whether or not to revise the agreement. One sticky point is the meaning of the "peaceful uses" part of a new agreement. I'll talk about that in the next column."

As a reminder, the column is Michael McCabe's personal views, thoughts and such. It is NOT in any way the official position of the United States or the State Department.

INTERNAZIONALE

By Charles Green

"The U.S. Backlash Against Foreign Affairs"

It is becoming readily apparent that the United States is beginning to go through another "Why-do-we-care-about-them?" phase in its attitude towards foreign relations. Watching the CBS Evening News on time-delay (it's shown in the mornings here), and in reading the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, I cannot help but perceive the growing phenomenon. People are demanding that "foreign giveaways" cease and the money (and President Bush's time) be applied to domestic problems instead. This isolationist viewpoint has always had a constant following, one which experiences periodic resurgences in popularity. Why, and why now? I will attempt to answer both and also thereby bring up next month's topic.

Taking the historical view, the superficial reason for it seems obvious: the usual American post-war reaction to foreign involvement. It happened with both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and now the Persian Gulf. Examining in turn exactly why THIS phenomenon occurs is more complicated, but can be boiled down into one or two main points. First, the effort required to sustain international wars of whatever nature naturally depletes the amount of gung-ho feeling for foreign intervention. This is to be expected, and it is not necessarily good or bad in its general sense. Second, and more uniquely American, is a disappointment with results and a desire to write off foreign involvement as useless. The "demonizing" of a foreign opponent (however worthy of the title) is designed to rouse national feeling against an opponent during wartime. Unfortunately, the aftershocks are sometimes negative, as the public asks why the "demon" was not sufficiently punished for his evil. This was not a problem in World War II, as every Axis country was a smoking wreck at the end. After Korea, and now after the Gulf War, the reasons for not "exorcising the demon" are not readily reduced to bumper-stickers or sound bites, and thus do not enjoy popular support. Harsh, but there you have it.

Of course, situations differ, and so does the one we find ourselves in today. The major force I believe is driving it is enjoying worldwide resurgence: nationalism. You can see it in Croatia (just across the border), in Russia (sic), in Germany (heil) and now in the United States as well. Articles lamenting our "fall" from economic dominance relative to the rest of the world are proliferating, as well as ones lamenting the general state of the country. The latter have always existed (yes, even in the 50s, which weren't so rosy - just read your history), and the former are ridiculous; the U.S. was the only unscathed industrial country after WWII, as well as the biggest, so naturally had the dominant share of world GNP. The only way to re-create this would be to destroy Europe and Japan again, something (hopefully) the American people are not willing to do. Nationalism puts America first, something not necessarily bad, as long as we're not the "first and only," which seems to be some people's idea.

It is this dark side of nationalism that is the problem, which will be dealt with next time (when I have found out the result of the Louisiana election).

POLL QUESTION

LAST MONTH: The Killeen Incident has made another case for those interested in Gun Control. Do you believe in gun control?

Curt Milbourn -- First, I do not believe that any form of gun control would have prevented the incident in Killeen. It appeared to be an isolated occurrence committed by an individual motivated for unknown reasons. No law guarantees 100% protection and I don't see how gun control would've prevented this.

As a police officer I can understand both sides to the argument for gun control. As an officer I have dealt with enough people to know that some individuals are not responsible enough to be entrusted with plastic eating utensils let alone a firearm. As a citizen with a family, I see the need to have the ability to protect yourself and your family from violence. If guns are taken away, how can I expect to protect my family from an armed perpetrator?

Let's not forget that some forms of gun control already exist in America. Fully automatic weapons are illegal, shotguns must be a certain length, some felons can not own weapons, etc... Obviously these kinds of controls are not working, as far as much of the American public is concerned. Does this mean that gun control will not work or does it mean that the proper controls have not been applied?

One thing that does concern me is the lack of an opinion by the U.S. Supreme Court on this issue. (Perhaps they have not received any kind of case they can rule on.) The United States Constitution is constantly being reinterpreted to fit into modern American society. An example of this is that the First Amendment is now interpreted as meaning "freedom of expression." Of course, the actual wording does not say this but that is the current interpretation. I firmly believe that a strong case can be made to interpret the Second Amendment as, "In order to maintain a free and secure State, the right of well regulated agencies to carry weapons, will not be prohibited." (Let's forget for a moment that the Amendments are designed to protect individuals from the government and not vice-a-versa). When the Second Amendment was enacted there was no standing Army, Reserves or National Guard in existence. Law enforcement was in its infancy. Everyone was in the militia. Times have changed. We have an Army, Reserves, National Guard and law enforcement agencies. The rugged and dangerous frontier, with all its problems, has long since disappeared. It is time to re-interpret the Second Amendment to reflect this change.

I am for gun control although I admit I have no idea how to implement it effectively. Perhaps the United States should look to other nations for examples how to deal with this problem.

Stora Harris -- If anything, I'd be tempted to say that the Killeen incident makes a better case for allowing the carrying of concealed weapons than it would be for outlawing them. If even one person in Luby's that day was carrying a weapon, then the madman could have been stopped before he was able to rack up such a devastating toll.

Marc Hight -- I am in favor of a reasonable waiting period (seven days), but not of a complete ban. After consulting with my wife the criminologist, studies strongly suggest that even should we ban guns, the rate of serious crimes would not significantly decrease. Banning guns would create a black market for weapons now legal, with the

probable effect of INCREASING violent crimes (or so the studies suggest). I favor the waiting period to reduce crimes of passion, but if someone desires to kill another, the bans being discussed would not be a barrier to that person. With the rising visibility of crime, the demand for weapons is not going to decrease by an act of legislation. Finally, we might want to think about all the weapons already out in society. They are registered (hopefully), but it is impractical to suggest that we could recall all those guns. I'm no fan of the NRA, but perhaps we can take a lesson from the 'success' of Uncle George's war on drugs. Making something taboo does not make the problem go away.

Joe Brooks -- I am not in favor of gun control. It is not the gun that kills but the person pulling the trigger. Outlawing the sale of handguns only drives them underground to the black market. This would then provide another source of illegal income for criminals. Target shooting and gun collecting can be an entertaining hobby. Hunting also provides many with an enjoyable escape from the hectic day-to-day pressure of everyday life! While I am not a hunter, I do own a rifle that I like to use for target shooting.

Everytime some looney goes on a killing spree, like what happened in Killeen, I hear the call for gun control. I wish the people behind gun control would use their resources in other more needy areas like stopping drunk drivers. If the gun control advocates had their way I couldn't purchase my choice of hand gun without a complete search of my whole life's background back to the time I saw my first John Wayne movie. On the other hand I can go to any bar and drink 'till I can't walk, but I would still be let out of that bar with car keys in hand.

Myself? -- I agree in part with just about everyone above. However, I don't necessarily agree that the carrying of concealed weapons would have solved the Killeen incident.

Take two scenarios, the first in which one citizen had a gun, pulled it out and started firing at the gunman. He finally stops the gunman, but hits three or four other individuals (probably due to poor training on how/when to shoot and not having been to the range in nine months). Who's fault is the collateral deaths is just one of the many aftermath questions that come to mind.

The second scenario is ten people draw their automatics and start firing at the gunman. Now we have eleven people shooting back and forth trying to stop one -- but who is who? I hate to think of what the aftermath of that situation would be.

I agree that having weapons is a right, that hunting and target shooting are legitimate hobbies, and personal protection is important. However, I draw the line when the weapon doesn't reasonably fit the above categories. For instance, a friend of mine defends his AK-47 as a hunting weapon. A Winchester .240 rifle with a scope is a hunting weapon -- an AK-47 is not.

I also agree with background checks and waiting periods. The one recent murder in the city I work in wouldn't have happened (at least at that time). The murderess bought the weapon (asking the sales clerk about the best ammunition for killing a human) within hours of killing her husband. The murder may have happened later; however, the more time available is more time to prevent a killing.

ITALY THE DIFFICULT

by Joe Brooks

In another Dipzine (we can't mention the competition, can we Andy? -- Yep!!, we can; now if I could only remember which one it was...) Paul Milewski gives statistics on Diplomacy games that were finished in 1990. These stats all point out two results...Italy is the hardest country to play while France is the easiest. I believe Italy's difficulty stems from two problems. The first is Italy's difficulty in obtaining neutral centers early in the game. Italy's guaranteed first year neutral, Tunis, is the only neutral that requires a fleet to reach. Italy and Austria are the only two countries who have adjacent home supply centers. This causes friction throughout the game as a Winter build followed by a Spring offensive keeps Italy on edge and also fearful of straying too far from home without first taking care of Austria.

Neutral centers are really only the first problem for the Italian early in the game. Italy is surrounded by water on three sides and the one avenue of escape is almost corked-up by impassable Switzerland. Switzerland, I believe, is the main cause for Italy's problems. If Italy's growth is planned by using her navy in the Mediterranean, most of her thrusts into opposing supply centers are telegraphed way before they get under way. Since Italy is surrounded by the Med, I have often wondered why Italy doesn't start the game with 2 fleets instead of 2 armies. An extra fleet early in the game instead of two armies would be more appropriate it seems.

Now back to Switzerland...the impassable Switzerland creates two avenues for the Italian armies to go through. The Piedmont, most likely, will end in a dead end as the Frenchman knows there is no reason for the Italian to enter the Piedmont other than to attack Marseilles. The other avenue is much more profitable and therefore is usually the route taken by the Italian armies. Since most of these problems are known by the Austrian and German they are usually on the alert for an Italian army entering Tyrolia.

All these obstacles that must be overcome early in the game are not enough to deter some from wanting to play the part of the Italian. Winning with Italy is not impossible, just more difficult. I am currently playing the Italian in "another" 'zine and I don't consider myself a masochist. Italy with all its short-comings is still a challenge that must be met every once in awhile. With proper alliances, the prerequisite stabs and even the unexpected and unforeseen luck factored in, Italy is the one country that can't afford to be stagnate for even one turn. One NMR can do in the Italian. Because many of the Italian moves point to specific goals and strategies it is the one country that can't be destroyed quickly. The same problems that confront the Italian from "breaking out" early in the game also confront those who wish to conquer "The Boot." The Turk needs three turns to reach the Italian mainland with his boats. The Frenchman, likewise, can be held off for at least four turns. This leaves the Tyrolia/Venice opening thanks to the bottleneck caused by Switzerland. It seems that Swiss can be the cause of much heartache as well as the source of much joy.

To wrap it up I think everyone should at one time or another play Italy....if for no other reason than to be able to sign your correspondence...Pope.

Next time...The Strengths of France.

Stephen Glasgow -- I applaud any efforts to help people help themselves. Job training and placement programs, etc, are the way to go. Education can also help break the cycle of welfare children becoming dependent adults. I would support the penalties here in Ohio introduced by Gov. Thompson of Wisconsin. I believe in continuous incremental improvement -- every little step shortens the distance to the big goal. What could interested Mensans do to encourage welfare reform?

Myself? -- Stephen also sent a long newspaper article (no date or newspaper cited) detailing the reforms he mentioned and other thoughts on the welfare system. I'll send a photocopy to anyone who requests it and sends a SASE.

A personal observation on the WorkFare programs. There was a pilot program almost a decade ago in Michigan that I was marginally involved in. An individual, to get her check, had to clean the living areas of the ambulance service I worked at. Well, to be precise, she had to spend four hours a day there. She routinely spent 1/2 hour on the phone, one hour on breaks and rarely was anything cleaner after she passed through.

The system broke down, as all it required was the time commitment with a vague statement regarding the work. No one at the station had any say in what she had to do, nor any supervisory capacity. Also, whether any work was done or not, as long as she put in her time, she got her check.

QUESTION FOR DECEMBER: What charities/public service organizations do you support? How? ((This includes blood drives, public radio/tv, the Salvation Army and other like groups)).

GAME OPENINGS

GunBoat: Three players signed up; four positions open. This will be a NO PRESS Gunboat game (if either of the two previously confirmed players object, we will use press). If you are signed up, there will be a red check ==>

Regular: Five positions open: Brooks, Koehler signed up.

Standbys: V. Lutterbie, DePalma, Kinsel, Reynolds, McHugh

Other game openings upon request of the readership. Contact the editor if you have a favorite game or variant.

NEW SUBBERS ((Add to your Subber List))

Hyatt, Fred G.; 60 Grandview Pl.; Montvlain, NJ 07043
(Pub--The Home Office)

McHugh, Jack; 280 Sanford Rd.; Upper Darby, PA 19082
(Pub--Your 'Zine of 'Zines)

White, Cal; 1 Turnberry Ave.; Toronto, Ontario; CANADA M6N 1P6
(Pub--Northern Flame)

Regarding whether the Democrats will win a presidential election in the near future (September's question):

Curt Milbourn: Barring some unforeseen scandal or political blunder the Democrats will not put a winner in the White House in 1992. Foreign events have made Bush unbeatable (fall of the Iron Curtain, Desert Storm, better relations with what's left of the Soviet Union) and the Democrats know it. (Witness all the prominent Democrats excusing themselves from the 1992 race for various reasons except the honest one, "We can't win.")

1996 may be a different story. Recent trends indicate that the Vice-President has the inside track to a party's nomination when the incumbent can't run. If Bush sticks by his vow to name Quayle as his running mate again in 1992 then, by tradition, Quayle would have the early edge in the race for the 1996 Republican nomination. However, many people, including active Republicans, don't feel Quayle can carry a national election, even with an outstanding running mate. Look for another candidate (Howard Baker or John Glenn, perhaps?) to emerge as the 1996 Republican nominee.

Much of the 1996 election outcome will be determined from Bush's performance in 1994-95. If it is positive, especially in foreign affairs, look for another 4 or 8 years of Republicans in the White House. If there are setbacks in foreign affairs, or a series of domestic affairs setbacks, or a badly faltering economy (worse than it is now) a Democratic candidate might be able to pull out a win. This is by no means, although. Even after Vietnam, the Watergate fiasco, Nixon's pardon and a terrible economy, the Republican's nearly elected Ford over Carter in 1976.

Why is this? It's my opinion that the Democratic Party is viewed as a social welfare party (whether true or not depends on how you view politics). They are also seen as more liberal than the Republicans. Overall, minorities and lower economic income voters have not made nearly the impact they are capable of at the polls. Until they do, conservative, steady income voters will decide who resides in Washington D.C., and it probably won't be Democratic.

Regarding Social Program Sponges (October's question):

Cal White -- How does this Stephen Glasgow afford the property tax on his ivory tower? Must be quite a few shillings. I freely admit that there are more than a reasonable number of leeches on the welfare rolls, both in the US and up here (<Canada>). But that's no reason to scrap the system. There are a lot of legitimate recipients out there who would starve to death were it not for public assistance. Glasgow is advocating a classic case of "throwing out the baby with the bath water" if not downright "let them eat cake!" (attitudinally speaking, that is). I sympathize with him over his sister as it's obviously colouring his attitude, but what about the single mother, the untrained and abused teenager or the person with a legitimate learning disability?

As for a solution to the deadbeats, may I suggest that any able bodied person, other than those responsible for a child's welfare be required to do make-work for that relief cheque? That would also break the spirit-sapped welfare syndrome that being on the dole brings on. Doing work, any work, would let the person salvage some pride.

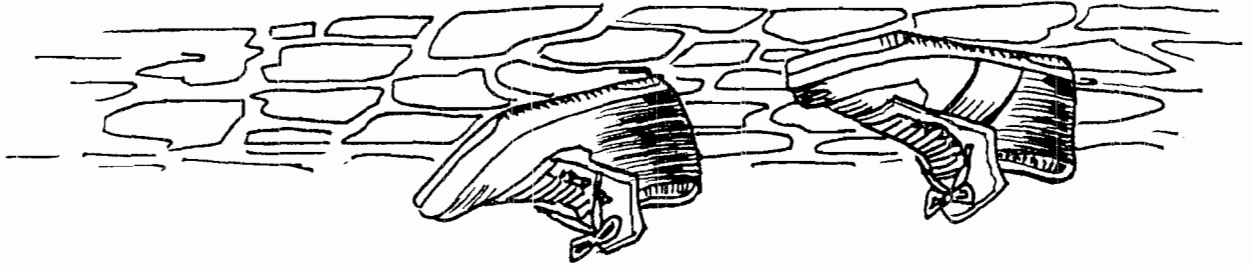
<<cont.>>

TIME SENSITIVE - DO NOT DELAY

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Larry Peery
P.O. Box 620399
San Diego, CA 92162

Rambling
Wax
% W. Andrew York
P.O. Box 2307
Universal City, TX 78148-1307
U.S.A



It's Out!

The Fall 1991 issue of *Zine Register*, the zine that helps the hobby look at itself, is on the newstands now. But if you're having trouble finding it locally, you *can* purchase it by mail.

Write to:

Garret Schenck, 40 Third Place,
Brooklyn, NY 11231-3302.

The price? A bargain at **\$2.50!**

