

Vol. II, No. 2

January 9, 1977

### A Vast Wilderness Publication

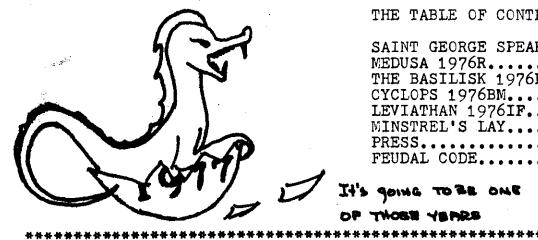
Diplomacy is convincing your ally that all you really wanted was Belgium, now you're happy, and you'll never, ever stab him again.

Winter has settled in for the duration. It has snowed here for six of the past seven days. White is vastly over-rated as a color. A friend of mine regards winter as his favorite season. For his birthday I have arranged for him to get psychiatric help. Driving to work over streets whereon snow removal is more a joke than an event, is not my idea of a good way to spend three months.

Moonman has returned to us this issue. A special thanks to the author, who has been laid up from an automobile accident. The issue of the Boardman numbers becomes more complicated. And I am pleased to note that several of you heeded my plea for press. I think a press zine makes for more interesting reading, because unless you are involved in the game itself, mere reportage of moves doesn't hold a person's interest.

So from all indications, 1977 should be an interesting year. I hope to have something special for next issue, which will be my anniversary issue.

but Lord only knows what.



#### THE TABLE OF CONTENTS

SAINT GEORGE SPEAKS....2 THE BASILISK 1976BA....4 CYCLOPS 1976BM.....3 LEVIATHAN 1976IF.....4 MINSTREL'S LAY......5 PRESS.... FEUDAL CODE

TH'S GOING TO BE ONE

Saint George and the Dragon is a journal of postal Diplomacy\* available from Robert Sergeant, 3242 Lupine Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46224. Phone (317) 293-9307. Subs 10/\$2; sample for first class postage. No Openings.

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The Boardman Numbers



What again? Yes, a new element has entered into the controversy about assignment of the Numbers. To fill you in,

John Boardman was the one who originally came up with the idea of postal Diplomacy. In 1965 he suggested a method for keeping track of the postal games by using a system like that used to keep track of comets. When he found that he no longer had the time to keep the records, he passed the Custodianship of the Numbers along and so they continued to be passed along until they arrived in the hands of the present Custodian, Doug Beyerlein.

Doug Beyerlein is associated with IDA; John Boardman is associated with TDA, and if you don't understand what that means, I really don't have the time or inclination to go into it here. Suffice it to say that in each's

opinion, the other group is composed of the forces of evil.

Since Doug has decided that the Boardman numbers require a subsidy from the GM's at the rate of \$1.00 per number(an action which I support, among other GM's), John Boardman has decided that as the original inventor of the numbering system, he has the right to appoint a new Number Custodian who will keep the numbers universal, by not charging a fee. Doug has already indicated that he does not intend to relinquish the numbers until the system is sound enough not to cause any new Custodian to lose his shirt.

Interestingly, Boardman himself has set a precedent. Miller numbers are assigned to the variant games. A number of variant GM's wish to see the removal of Robert Sacks as Miller number Custodian. I am not familiar enough with the controversy to argue its merits. The point is that the previous Miller Number Custodian, Conrad von Metzke, has volunteered to take them back. Boardman is supporting Robert Sacks, and maintains the is no justifiaction for such a replacement, even though many variant GM's have declared their intentions not to seek numbers from Sacks.

I maintain that Boardman has no right, even as the original source of the idea to relieve Beyerlein of the Custodianship. I do not think Doug has done anything to warrant such replacement. Boardman has said that he is awarding the numbers to Heuer to keep them universal, which they admittedly won't be with Beyerlein since several GM's are too cheap to pay the dollar, and others are using the situation to get the Numbers out of "IDA". I herewith declare that appointing Heuer Boardman Number Custodian in this fashion is not going to guarantee the universality of the numbers because I do not intend to get my numbers from him. I recognize Doug Beyerlein as Boardman Number Custodian and will get all numbers for my games from him. I will not recognize any other Custodian unless and until Doug relinquishes the numbers voluntarily.

I think this whole matter is being using as a cheap shot against Doug who has done an admirable job. I would be interested in hearing from you out there reading this as to your opinions. Are you interested in the numbers? Do you care who has them.? Do you see any point to them, or am I alone on this? Saint George would be happy to serve as a forum.

\*

1976R

#### Medusa

Spring, 1905

RUSSIA STRIKES BACK: FRANCE TURNED TO STONE



Austria (McArdle) A tus-PIE, A rom-VEN, A apu-TRI, F ADR C A apu-TRI, F SMY H, A BOH S Russian A gal-SIL, A bud-GAL England (Rittel) A lon-PIC, F ENG C A lon-PIC A BRE S A lon-PIC, F mao-SPA(NC), F swe-NWY, F nth-NWG

France (Happel?) NMR ABUR H, A PAR H, A MAR H, F POR H Germany(Cohen) F pic h(d, a), A BEL-bur, A ruh-MUN, A mun-TYO,
A sil-gal(d, r ber, pru, otb), A war-ukr(d, r pru, otb),
A st.p-MOS, A LVN S A st.p-MOS

Italy(Drews) A gre-BUL, F ion-GRE, F nap-ION

Russia(Rauscher) A gal-SIL, A mos-WAR, A UKR S A mos-WAR,

MEDUSA

F CON H, F bla-ARM Turkey(Nurse) A ANK-con

The German F pic is annihilated; Germany must retreat the army from Silesia and the army from Warsaw. These retreats will be due with Fall, 1905 orders and may be conditional upon them. Underlined orders cannot be carried out; CAPS denote final resting place of unit. Chip Charnley, P. O. Box 124, Buxton, NC 27920 is asked to submit standby orders for France. These standby orders should be sent to me. PRESS-page 6

\* DEADLINE FOR FALL, 1905 IS FEBRUARY 12, 1977, 3:00PM EST 

1976BM

Cyclops

Spring, 1904

# ITALY TAKES NEUTRAL STANCE



CYCLOPS

Austria (Muchnik) F tri-ADR, A BUD H, A TYO S A MUN, A MUN S English A KIE, A gal-BOH, A srb-TRI, A CON H, F aeg-ION England (Doehrer) A EDI-lvp, A KIE S F DEN, F nwy-NTH,

F DEN S A KIE, F LON S F nwy-NTH France(Levy) A GAS S A SPA, A SPA S F MAR, F MAR H, F BRE-mao, A bel-HOL, A par-PIC, F LVP H

Germany (Gemignani) A ber-kie (d, r sil, otb) F HEL S A ber-kie Italy(Kelly) A PIE H, A TUS H, F LYO H, F MAO H Russia (Bresslour) A ST.P H, F BAL S A pru-BER, A pru-BER,

F SWE S English F DEN, A WAR S Austrian A gal-sil(NSO),

A sev-ARM, F ANK S A sev-ARM

Turkey(CD) A SMY H

Germany must retreat the army from berlin. Underlined orders cannot be carried out: CAPS denote final resting place of unit. Fall, 1904 orders may be made conditional upon the German retreat. Press- page 6

DEADLINE FOR FALL, 1904 IS FEBRUARY 12, 1977, 3:00PM EST

1976IF

Leviathan

Fall, 1901

LEVIATHAN

RUSSO-GERMANIC WAR ERUPTS AS AUSTRIA DEFENDS SUCCESSFULLY

Austria(Nurse) FALB-tri, A srb-BUL, A bud-SRB

(England(Charnley) F nwg-NWY, A YOR-bel, F NTH C A YOR-bel

(France(Hazel) F mao-POR, A mar-SPA, A BUR-bel

Germany(Berch) F DEN-swe, a kie-HOL, A mun-RUH

Italy(Agosta) A VEN-tri, A nap-TUN, F ION C A nap-TUN

Russia(McLendon) F GOB-swe, A stp-FIN, A ukr-RUM,

F BLA S A ukr-RUM

Turkey(Mann II) F con-AEG, A bul-GRE, A ank-CON

Underlined orders cannot be carried out; CAPS denote fianl resting place of unit.

# 

SUPPLY C	ENTER	CHART		197	61 <b>F</b>	Leviatha	n		1901
AUSTRIA: ENGLAND: FRANCE: GERMANY: ITALY: RUSSIA: TURKEY:	edi, bre, ber, nap, mos,	lvp, mar, j kie, i rom, s sev, s	lon, par, mun, ven, stp,	POR, SI DEN, HO TUN war, RI	PAOL.	4, build 5, build 5, build	1 2 2 1 1		
NEUTRALL	SWE.	BET.						15.4	

1976BA

The Basilisk

Winter, 1904

Austria(Hessel) builds F TRI, A VIE. Has A VIE, A CON, A MUN, A SIL, A TYO, A TUS, F TRI, F ION, F ADR England(Rogowski) removes F pic, A ruh. Has F ENG, F NWY, FSWE, F GOB, F LON France(McLendon) even. Has F LVP, A BRE, A PAR Germany(Mann II) builds F KIE. Has A BEL, A BER, F DEN, F KIE

Italy(Brendlinger) retreats F ion-TUN. Builds F NAP.
Has F NAP, F TUN, F POR, F WES, A PIE, A ROM
Russia(Anderson) retreats F GOB-lvn. Removes A SEV.

F LVN, F FIN, F AEG, A STP, A PRU, A WAR, A RUM

BASILISK

THE

page 5 January 9, 1977 Saint George and the Dragon - No. 12 

## MINSTREL'S LAY

# The Moonman - Chapter 10



"It is all rather confusing, " the Moonman thoughtfully mused. "Eh?" I replied, somewhat unconcerned as I stirred during my weekly Sunday sabbatical beneath the morning's comics.

The Moonman seemed determined to impose upon my repose.

"The terminology by which your kind describes certain factions within its political society."

"Eh?" The blessed apathy of sleep still fought for domination.

"For example, there are Republicans, Democrats, Socialists, Communists, Nationalists, Zionists, Anti-Zionists, Conservatives, Moderates, Liberals, etc., etc., ad nauseum." "Eh?"

"The literal and functional meanings of these terms, I think, is internally inconsistent and often diametrically opposed to the general concept of 'Utopia' which is expoused as the goal of each." "Eh?" DAMMIT!! The sleep was draining from my head.

"How can the ultimate society be attained through so-called conservative policies? Reverence of an admittedly flawed past would argue to the contrary." The Moonman appeared genuinely puzzled. "On the other hand, constant change brings chaos, insecurity and societal trauma."

"Eh?" Moonman's point was lost in the slow-clearing haze of sleep. "Perhaps," he brightened, "the answer lies within your saying: 'Beauty is in the ear of the beholder."

"Eh?"

"EYE!" Mace corrected, entering the room, clad in Vietnam khaki. "That's 'EYE' of the beholder."

"Wherever," the Moonman shrugged. "My point is that the apparent paradox can be solved if we postulate that each group defines 'Utopia' differently."

"Elementary, my dear Watson," Mace replied as she settled on the end of the couch where my sleep was slowly dissolving. "The goals of each group

differ. Hence, the labels."

"Perhaps," the Moonman pondered. "However, such a situation yields the inescapable conclusion that there will never be a 'free society', nor a 'worker's paradise' since no one agrees on the meaning of the terms, much less on how to achieve them. Hence, no 'Utopia' is possible by-pardon the term-definition."

"You're being too abstract," Mace challenged.

"I cannot conceive in my mind's ear how a compromise between any two of the so-called 'Utopias' can be arranged."

"EYE," Mace again corrected. "That's mind's eye."

"Wherever. I must conclude that the only way of acheiving any 'Utopia' on this benighted planet is through the conversion of all peoples on it to one view. That will presumably be arranged through war since that seems to be your kind's answer to any logical argument."

My sleep (and Sunday morning) completely destroyed, I sat up. "Now wait a minute," I protested. "You're being totally unfair."

"Perhaps," the Moonman said, rising from the floor. "But I grow weary.

I believe I shall retire and attempt to gain some rest."

"Me, too," Mace chimed, and both left the room.

Fully awake now, I followed them verbally with: "OH, STICK IT IN YOUR EYE! "

Saint George and the Dragon - No. 12 page 6 January 9, 1977 ම විවිත කර්වල ගත්ත විදුන් විදුන්ව විද

#### PRESS

1976R

Ankara (Feb. 1905) The brilliant Turkish General Isch Turnip pulled off a tour-de-force which is only now beginning to be recognized in our fair capital city. What was thought to be a surprising number of refugees has turned out to be the entire Imperial fleet without their ships. They have been marshalled into squads and distributed across the land to wage guerilla warfare in the vast reaches of the less-than-mighty Russian not-quite-conquerors.

1976BA

Press will be held over until Spring.

1976BM

Sarajevo(February 8, 1904) It was cold outside, and the group of seven desperately searched for some shelter in the wilderness some miles from the city. Finally, one of them spotted an open cave and directed the others to it.

"Finally! That cold was unbearable! I will start a fire."

But all of them suddenly fro, e at once as the cave opening disap-

peared. Suddenly, they all heard a piercing scream.

Moscow(7 April, special to New York Times and Saint George) The leftist government of the 2 yr. old Soviet People's Republic appears to have completed a minor shake-up among high-ranking officials. The appointment of Vladimir Barashnikov as Minister of Food and Nutrition is expected to radically alter the agricultural policies of the new Republic. However, the replacement of V.I.Lenin with N.F.Nezvanova as Chairman of the People's Communist Party was considered minor as both men are regarded as puppets of Minister of War I. Turgonev and Minister of Foreign Affairs L. Bresslour.

(11 April, Moscow Poeple's United Press) Vladimir Barashnikov, the new Soviet Minister of Food and Nutrition, today announced that henceforth any Russian discovered eating crepes would be sentenced to 17 yrs. of rich sauces and imprisonment. Foreign Minister Bresslour said that the policy had no relation to foreign affairs. In a separate statement Bresslour announced that from hereon the traditional borshch served at State Dinners would be supplemented with spaghetti, goulash, or fish and chips. Bresslour made it clear that serving sauerkraut or taffy

with borshch sickened even his iron stomach.

(7 August, PUP) Foreign Minister Bresslour said today that he could not understand why no one had shown up at a state dinner since early April. His new assistant Vladimir Barashnikov blanched, but said nothing.

(13 August, PUP) Ivan Turgonev, the Russian Minister of War, has asked his Minister of Foreign Affairs to meet with him today to discuss a

series of "gastronomical weapons."

(30 August, PUP) Chairman Nezvanova today denounced "all the nations of Europe, whether friend, or enemy, or just plain stupid" he added in deference to Germany, for their refusal to let a free and humorous press reign throughout Eurasia and Dragon Country. He explained that while a free press reigned in England, Germany, and Russia, a humorous press was entirely absent.

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Saint George and the Dragon - No 12 page 7 January 9, 1977 

#### PRESS

1976IF

Vienna(October 14, 1901) The nobility had gathered for the annual "Chicken-shoot" in the fabulous Winter Palace on the Danube. Now that the smelly garrison across the street had left for god-knows-where, they felt free to walk around in the park without fear of the gentlemen getting mugged and the ladies pinched. "You just can't get no respect these days, no sir," the Emperor's mother was heard to say. "I bet you it's them bloody Turks with their bad-mouthing ways cor-

rupting all the young 'uns."

Highlights of the event were when Anna Navsky fell off the stage after a particularly dizzying kiss from the hero, and when a hundred halter tops broke when Baron von Glumsky hit the very low notes. The Emperor, true to form, caused the adrenalin to flow in a heated speech, an excerpt from which follows: "How dare the Sultan speak to us of the Geneva Convention when he knows full well that for us it is a worthless piece of paper? Is his true aim far more subtle than annoyance? Perhaps he is trying to turn the population, who don't know any better, against us, to force us to stick to its clauses? That my dear fellow ambassadors and statesmen, is true and pure perversion of the spirit of that document, sirs, which he professes to uphold. Thank you."
The roar of the crowd after that speech blew out our cassette.
Moscow: The Tsar regrets that no accord can be reached with the Kaiser.

All attempts to establish friendly relations with his western neigh-

bor have failed. We must prepare our defenses accordingly.

Madison: I would like to take this opportunity to "congratulate" the players in Leviathan for providing the hobby with one of the more exciting and ferocious opening years it has seen. For those of you interested in such things, your Dragonmaster and I believe that the Spring, 1901 moves represent the first in postal Diplomacy history that a French player has supported a unit into Burgundy against a German attack on the opening move. Keep up the good work. Finally, I want to wish the players, the Dragonmaster, and all those I know in the hobby the happiest of New Years. May all your stabs be good ones (EXCEPT ANY YOU MIGHT BE CONTEMPLATING IN 1975CG, ROBERT: ). Take care. ((DON OBVIOUSLY HASN'T RECEIVED THE LATEST ISSUE OF L.D., OR HE WOULDN'T SAY "MIGHT"))

### FEUDAL CODE

When I originally wrote my House Rules, I neglected to mention "Black Press". For those of you unfamiliar with the term, it refers to submitting press with a place of origin listed that lies within another players territory, to attempt to make it appear that another player wrote it.

Although faked letters and similar ploys are standard, the GM must remain neutral. Asking him to print a press release which he knows does not come from the country in question, is asking him to be a party (continued on page 8)

**\*** 

### FEUDAL CODE

to a deception. In my opinion, this causes the GM to violate his neutrality and involves him in the game itself. I will not print Black Press.

On such release was submitted this issue. Since I had not previously ruled on the matter, I have simply omitted the release. However, in the future, if such a release is submitted, it will carry the selected dateline, followed by "via place of true origin."

NOTE: COA

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1976R 1976BA 1976BM 1976IF Trade

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