

GO YANKS ROYALS DODGERS CARDS

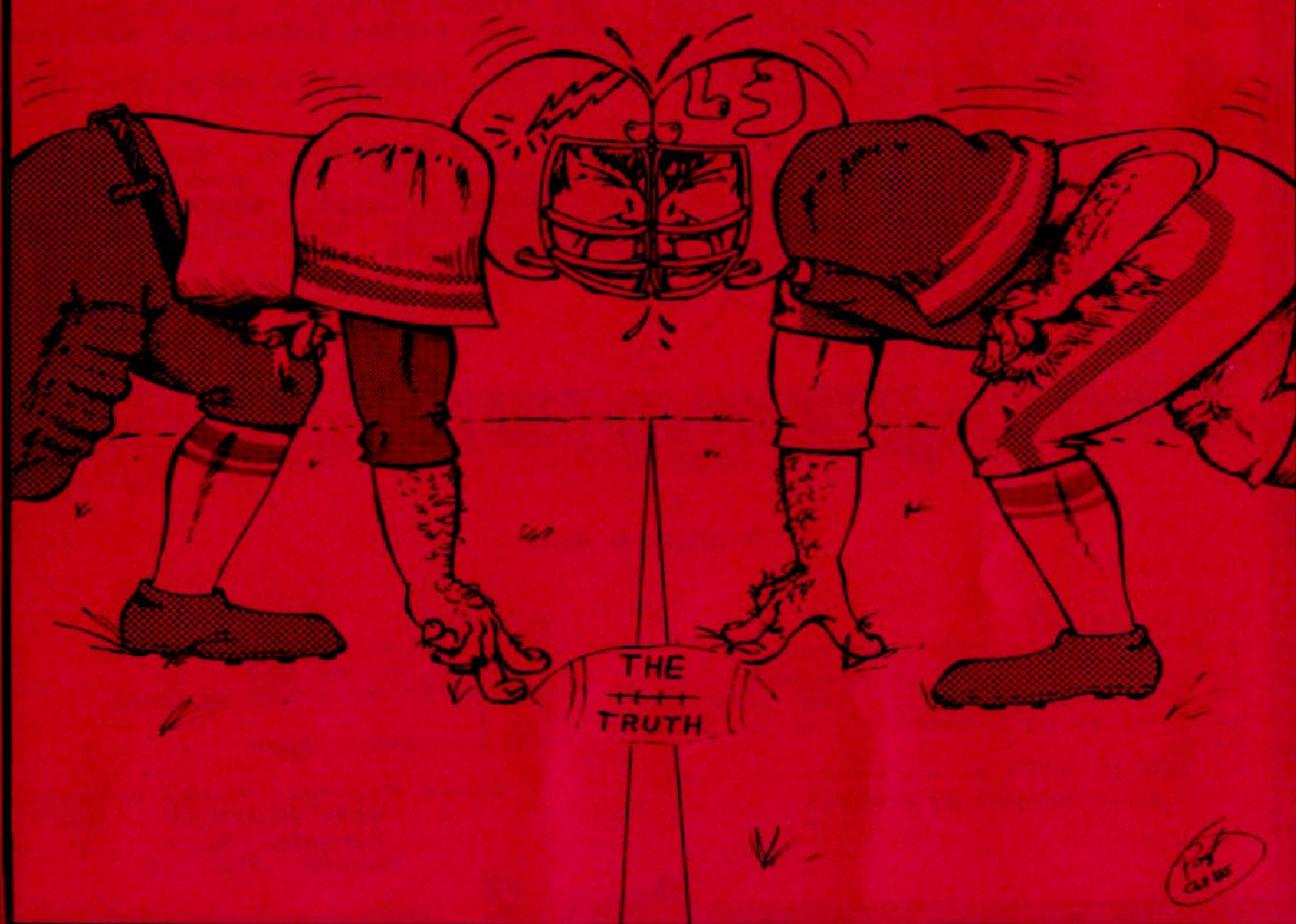
excelsior

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ISSUE No. 8

by BRUCE MCINTYRE

MONDAY NITE FEUDBALL BRUXELLES vs BASHERS



DIRECTORY

EXCELSIOR #8 by Bruce McIntyre with a whole heaven of a lot of support from Nancy Hurrell. Printed October 6, 1985 in Vancouver, BC Canada, by Chris Buck of Kinko's

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Subscriptions:

3 issues/\$2.00 CDN in Canada
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DipGAB

A bit of a shorter version of DipGAB this month, as we've got *Hobby* as well this time.

The latest computer-related "you gotta hear this story" goes as follows. I was printing out the Soccer Report when I noticed that there was a small, but irritating spelling error. So, I stopped the printout, corrected the error, and saved the new version. Since it was the same name as the old version, I got the prompt *Replace existing file?*, and of course I typed a "y" for yes. I then noticed that I'd have to reset the printer to the top of the page for the next printout, and so I rolled the paper accordingly. It then occurred to me that the printer's memory of where the top of the page was would now be distorted by the breaking of the earlier printout. So I turned the printer off. This caused the problem. It's a problem I encountered before but never isolated the source. Anyhow, the disk drive stopped operating, and the computer would not respond to any of the keys. All I could do was turn it off and start over.

But that was by no means all there was to it. The first thing the computer did in saving the new version of the soccer report was kill the old one. Halfway through saving the new one, it stopped. End result, a messed-up disk, and the probable loss of the soccer report.

Luckily, I have a book on the operation of the 1541 disk drive that includes a chapter on "Getting Out Of Trouble." The book is *The 1541 User's Guide* (no it's not Commodore's instruction manual), by Dr. Gerald Neufeld. I quickly found the recover program I was looking for, and typed it in. Somehow, I noticed a typo in the program, and what the likely solution was, so I made that small correction while typing in the program. Finally I was ready to run the program. I put the trouble disk in the drive and started the program. Whirr, clack, click, whirr. Suddenly it occurred to me: *What if the program doesn't work? What if it zanks the whole disk?!* There's three weeks worth of work on that disk!!! Well, there was certainly nothing I could do with the disk drive whirring away: if it was working, it would be lunacy to stop the program, and, if not, the abrupt breaking of the program would probably screw the disk up beyond repair. I performed the standard McIntyre solution for such calamities: I closed my eyes and said a silent prayer to a God that certainly hadn't heard from me in a while! I downed a full glass of Pepsi I'd poured five minutes ago. Then, massive optical blurs reminded me of the somewhat hefty amount of rum I'd mixed with it.

Finally the blurriness was gone, and the whirring had stopped. The screen displayed the message: *File "Soccer" recovered.* Yeah, surrre, I thought skeptically. But when I loaded it up, it worked fine. So, I suppose, whoever runs the computing department in Heaven should be thanked, along with Dr. Gerald Neufeld, whose book I highly recommend to all C-64 owners.

Didn't get enough response on Poker to warrant another column this time, but I'm saving what I've got until there is room, so if you know any interesting methods of play, houserules, strategies, or anecdotes, share 'em with us! I'll pay three issues to the most interesting bit I get.

Meanwhile, the poker games go well. We play about two-three Saturdays per month at my place, and other weeks at different venues. The last time we played, I lost \$29 dollars due to an incredible streak of bad luck which culminated in a hand of 7-27 in which I lost at least half that amount. (I lost for low with a two-card seven, which loses to a three-card seven.) After that, though, I began to slowly pull my self out of the 40 dollar hole that lady luck had created for me. Under those circumstances, \$29 down isn't bad, I guess.

Four hours ago, I made a bet with Grant Fraser that the New York Yankees would beat the Toronto Blue Jays for the pennant, at odds of 6-5. (I put up \$5 to win \$6.) I suppose that Carter, Falkiner, and Stewart will be immediately canceling their subs, but after what happened tonight, I feel confident. Good Ghod. All the Jays have to do is win one out of three home games against the Yanks, and look at the first one. Top of the ninth, Jays lead 3-2. First guy strikes out, next guy flies out. Third guy takes two pitches, then we get this on the radio: "It's a long fly ball to deep right. Might be playable. It's close....this....game.....is.....TIED!!" Then an infield hit (surre...) and a dropped fly ball get the Yanks another run. Final score 4-3 New York. If the Jays continue to play as they have the past few weeks, the Yankees should just make it! But I still think the highlight of the season was the Toronto-New York series at Yankee Stadium, where the fans in the left field bleachers had a rather unique way of expressing their displeasure with the gopher balls given up by the Yankee pitchers. They *threw the ball back!!!*

Forgot to mention that the winner of the Colour My Zine contest last time was Charles Arsenault, who sent in the shade of yellow judged as closest to the XL#7 cover hue. And Ron (*Snafu!*) Brown picked up five free issues for telling me all about the beginning of the slow (2nd) movement of Beethoven's Third on page 12. Rosie Roberts late entry identified *all four* excerpts correctly as being from Beethoven's Third, but Ron's response got here first, so she gets credit for the other three. Still, that's a hefty fifteen issues of XL, which puts Rosie almost up to Ron ("Trivia Master") Krukowski in the subscription war. The other three were the start of movement one on page 17, the first theme of the fourth movement on page 21, and the mysterious new theme in the development of the first movement on page 24. And that reminds me: from this issue on, there will be some central theme linking the musical excerpts which will get you another five issues. For example, the last issue's excerpts all revolved around Beethoven's Third Symphony. I should warn the skeptics among you that classical music can look remarkably similar to popular music on paper, so the answers may be easier than you think. Although the last issue's answers were altogether *too easy*, I think.....

Except for my Conference Call friends, it isn't often I get a chance to meet a new subber to XL and actually accept his subscription *in person*, but I got two phone calls from a fellow named Wayne Wittal last month. The second was local, and we arranged a meeting place, where he and Don Wagner looked over the address list printed in XL#6 and asked me for recommendations. It's definitely a highlight of this hobby that it's members try to overcome the vast distances of North America as often as they do. Even Wells BC is quite a ways from Vancouver. Thanks very much, Wayne, it was nice meeting you!

T-shirts will be printed soon. The design will be a simple XL cover page with the artwork similar to that which appeared on the cover of XL#1, but with me showing off my XL T-shirt, which shows me showing off my XL T-shirt, which shows..... The cost will not be figured yet, but definitely by next issue I'll know more. So don't send money yet, just let me know you want one, so I know how many to make.

Gas companies in Greater Vancouver have declared all-out war with the helpless little guys that run the self serve consoles. We are engaged in a price war with a twist--prices never actually go down. But during the course of my shift, I might accept up to 10 different kinds of Shell-sponsored coupons, entitling the bearer to \$1-\$2 off his gas. The catch is that 95% of these things require the customer to fill in

his name, address, postal code, licence plate number, penis length, and Ghod only knows what else. So two out of three customers have to do ten minutes of paperwork. (All this assumes they understand English--if not, there's just no hope of them even understanding my instructions.) Then there's Loto Shell, an instant-win game that we run out of at inopportune times, usually just when the customers who *like* to raise hell arrive. Then there's the accepting of other gas company coupons, to cut down on thier coupon sales. On top of all that there's Project EnGulf, whereby we accept Gulf Canada credit cards, with lengthy side-effects--about twenty minutes of paperwork. I dunno; this used to be an easy job.....

News From The Soft Drink.Front: Nan successfully distinguished new from old Coke, as did I, in a recent home taste test. (I still prefer the New). Crystal Light Tropical Punch (plus one packet of sugar substitute) has recently overtaken Pepsi on my list, but a newcomer to the Vancouver market, Cherry Coke, has shown promise of late. Wonder if it goes good with rum?????

Vancouver has a hooker problem. It's not what residents of many large American cities would call a hooker problem, but Vancouverites are rather shocked to see ladies of the evening walking around in the afternoon. The summer of '84 saw a "Shame The Johns" campaign, in which residents of what is called the West End (the area that the hookers decided to call home), decided that since Canadian law could do nothing against the hookers, they would go after their customers. Licence numbers were recorded. Dirty letters were written. Organizations (B.C.s answer to anything, it seems) were formed. Finally a by-law was passed making it illegal for hookers to sell themselves west of Granville Street. This forced them out of the West End, and for a time they moved to the other side of Granville, where there is an industrial section. Then they discovered the existance of another neighbourhood that albeit was not downtown, but it was close enough. Most important, it was unquestionably east of Granville St. So now the problem is springing up again in the community called Mount Pleasant. (The media is just beginning to dub it Mt. *Unpleasant*.) And once again the lawmakers are looking for a quick fix. The one they're talking about now is a similar by-law forcing them to operate south of Broadway. This is brilliant, but the strategy should be ongoing. South of Broadway and East of Granville leaves way to much space (among it North Burnanby and Winch St.). Put two more boundaries-in there. Then revise the by-laws so that the zone gets smaller and smaller, ever so gradually. Finally, when all the mini-skirts in the city are confined to one small city block, continue to revise the law so that eventually the hookers only legal place from which to operate is Wreck Beach. (Wreck Beach is a nudist beach located conveniently just west of the University.) They'd not attract much interest out there, with all those clothes on.



WHAT HAPPENED IN ST JOHN'S

Before beginning my report on the final game of the CONCACAF qualifying round of soccer World Cup qualifying, some background for those of you who've missed the last two installments.

Three teams fought it out to represent North America in next years World Cup in Mexico. Canada had beaten out Haiti and Guatemala to advance, Costa Rica had trounced Trinidad and beaten the U.S. in a heartbreaker in St. Louis to go through, and Honduras had beaten--well, an educated guess would be Cuba and El Salvador, but it might be any two Central American countries. Honduras' state-supported soccer team had dictated to FIFA (the international governing body of soccer) that the final qualifying round be played as soon as possible, in order that Canada and Costa Rica, whose players would need special permission to be released from their European clubs, would be at a disadvantage. Canada retaliated by scheduling their home game with Honduras as late as possible, in windy, wet St. John's Newfoundland.

Honduras achieved an all-important 2-2 draw in Costa Rica. The result was hailed as being good for Canada, as neither team had gained two points in the standings. However, in Toronto the following week, disaster struck when Costa Rica scored on a thirty yard fluke deflection off an attempt to clear the ball by Canada, Canada struggled to eke out a 1-1 tie. Next Canada travelled to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and surprised the Honduran team with a 1-0 win, taking control of the standings. The following week, after outplaying Costa Rica for 55 minutes, disaster struck again. A Costa Rican player, and Canada's Mike Sweeney, ran together towards the camera chasing the ball. Somehow the Costa Rican fell, and Sweeney's attempt to play the ball produced a meeting between the Costa Rican's forehead and Sweeney's thigh, all sheilded from the referee. The referee decided to believe the obvious dive, and gave Sweeney a red card, ejecting him (without benefit of substitution) from the still-scoreless game, and preventing him from starting what would turn out to be the most important game two weeks on in St. John's. Just why the referee gave a red card on a play which he could not possibly have seen clearly (unlike the television audience; as a matter of fact, the best proof that it was an obvious dive came from the reaction of the Costa Rican television crew, which showed no replay) is quite beyond me. However, Canada held on for the scoreless draw, and even came close to scoring near the end. The penultimate match was a 3-1 win for a Honduras team which was waking up quickly to the fact that the real enemy was Canada, and not Costa Rica as they had originally surmised. So with one game--Honduras vs Canada at St. John's, the standings looked like this:

TEAM	GP	W	L	D	F	A	PTS
Canada	3	1	0	2	2	1	4
Honduras	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Costa Rica	4	0	1	3	4	6	3

By far the best thing was that after all the worry, no result from St. John's would force a goal-difference champion. Honduras needed a win to go through, any other result (including a draw) would mean that Canada would be the CONCACAF representative.

Early on in the week preceding the game, Canada obtained the services of striker Carl Valentine for the match. Valentine had been a longtime MVP for the North American Soccer League's Vancouver Whitecaps, and had received Canadian citizenship just before the league folded. However, he wanted to try for England's World Cup team. (The rules are that you may play for your first country or your adopted country, but

having once played for any country, you are bound to them for life.) When this didn't work out, he became mentioned for Canada's side, but Tony Waiters, the Canadian coach, refused to use him until it became necessary, because the team was playing well together. However, with injuries to Ken Garroway, Dale Mitchell, and the suspension to Sweeney, Waiters decided that Valentine would be a necessary acquisition.

Thursday's news contained a lovely report on the Hondurans first practise in St. John's. Their coach had pulled every available string to get a less unfavourable facility. First he complained that the only two roads that led to the field went past a graveyard, and his players would thus be cursed before the game. When this failed, he measured the goalposts and the distance between them to the nearest millimetre, and complained about that. Finally the practise got under way, and Canadians across the country were treated to interviews with shivering Hondurans on the evening news. Friday's Vancouver Sun contained an interview with Chelato, the Honduran coach (who hailed from Brazil). He said that while the game was on, all the streets of Honduras would be vacant, all eyes glued to the TV sets. If we win, continued Chelato, there will be wild celebration until nightfall. If we lose, there will be a long period of silence on the streets, but eventually, they will come looking. For me.

The site of the game was King George V field in St. John's. A crowd of 8,000 had turned out, including 300 supporters from Honduras, who sat shivering in the frigid, 70F/19C weather. On the TV, we could see only the stands at the far side of the field, where apparently row eight was as high as it went, but it must be said that the crowd was loud, enthusiastic, and very supportive. Apparently half of the city had taken some part in organizing the event, from the new turf to the many red and white signs.

The game's first big highlight occurred when a Honduran defender kicked the ball out of the stadium and into the parking lot, with very little effort--indeed, I think the ball was deflected. It took fully ten minutes for them to find the ball in order to restart play. Later on in the first half, 300 Honduran supporters were completely stymied when the St. John's locals (all eight rows of them) began to do The Wave. (For those of you who don't know, The Wave is the latest North American sporting event--fans completely ignore the game to stand-up and raise their arms high in the air, section by section clockwise around the stadium until they get bored.)

Ten minutes into the game, Carl Valentine took a corner kick. It sailed into the goal area outside the near post, and came down into a crowd of players. Rebounding loose, it went right onto the toe of George Pakos, who had scored the big goal in Honduras which had given Canada their 1-0 victory. He blasted a shot from just two yards out. The goalie had it completely covered for the slightest of instants--then it bounced off the ankle of a Honduran defender, and just barely went in near the post. 1-0 to Canada.

At 6191 Winch St. in North Burnaby, a shout of joy unlike any other arose from the basement suite, immediately waking up the entire neighbourhood, and very nearly destroying a perfectly good drinking glass.

But the Hondurans refused to die. Late in the first half, a quick run looked promising, until an acrobatic move by Ian Bridge saved the situation. And with just seconds to go, goalkeeper Tino Lettieri misjudged a high ball, and was left stranded as the ball went bouncing toward the goal. A Honduran forward and Canada's gifted amateur Randy Samuel were chasing it down, Samuel a full step behind. At the very last second, a leg draped in red appeared from nowhere and cleared the ball away, only inches from the goal line. 1-0 to Canada at halftime.

Back at Winch St., a heavy sigh was breathed, along with an "I don't believe it", as the shouter, having turned away upon seeing that only a small nuclear explosion could prevent a Honduras equalizer, watched the replay of Samuel's heroics in wonderment. Could this be the year? Was this to be our revenge for '82, when we lost our birth on goal difference to a team from El Salvador that went all the way to Spain only to lose 10-1 to a Hungarian side that didn't even get through to the next round?

Canada was forced to make a substitution for the second half. Ian Bridge's acrobatics had proven to be detrimental, forcing him out of action. To compensate for the loss of Bridge, Canada moved one of the midfielders to the defence. It was shortly into the second half when Canada's new defensive alignment succumbed to the constant Honduran pressure, when a long run in which the Honduran striker dribbled past five or six Canadians resulted in a goal. 1-1.

Back at Winch St., there was silence. The tone of the afternoon had been set. The momentum had shifted, the game had been lost on yet another critical injury. Surely the Canadian defense could not hold out without Bridge, their all star central defender. Soon it would be 2-1, then perhaps 3-1. Complete offensive ineptitude on the part of the Hondurans was all we could hope for.

After the ensuing kickoff, the Hondurans applied more pressure, then seemed to tire a bit, and Canada pushed forward, only to meet the pesky Honduran defense, which it seemed were determined not to give up another goal, ever. Lettieri made a spectacular save. Igor Vrablic, the European born Canadian striker, was tripped viciously on an offensive run, with no foul called. Samuel barely beat a Honduran to a long ball, giving up a corner. Canada cleared quickly, to Vrablic, whose shot went off the goalie for a corner. Valentine stepped up to take it. The ball was kicked towards the net. With a play that never seemed to work while he was a Vancouver Whitecap, Bob Lenarduzzi flicked it over the outstretched arms of the goalie into the goalmouth. Vrablic and a defender struggled to make first contact. A raised thigh--Vrablic's--hit the ball into the net. 2-1 Canada!

At Winch St., a sound of joyous surprise reverberated through the basement suite's kitchen. It can still be heard reverberating in the late hours.

The second Canadian goal seemed to deflate the Hondurans, coming as it did so late in the game. With ten minutes left and two goals to get, they pushed everyone forward, and the game turned into a more wide open affair. Vrablic, on a counter-attack hit one off the far post from 25 yards out. Lettieri made a courageous save, beating a Honduran to the ball by barely a yard, only to be viciously kicked in the side by the frustrated striker. This action got the Honduran a yellow card, though the announcers speculated that if Sweeney was awarded a red card for his "foul" in Costa Rica, this one, by that scale, warranted the death penalty. The free kick was taken, and the game was over. Canada had advanced to the 24-team World Cup to be held next June in Mexico!

What are Canada's chances in Mexico? All depends on the big draw, to be held in mid-December. The 24 teams that have qualified for the tournament will then be randomly distributed into six groups of four. The first round of the tournament is six simultaneous round-robins. Obviously, if Canada is drawn into a group which includes France, Brazil, and West Germany, they can book an early flight home. But this is unlikely. I think that Canada could be competitive with about 30% of the teams there. Given a good draw and some luck, we might go far. Let's hope....

EVERYONE GOES SOUTH EVERY NOW AND THEN

(The stories in italics below are taken from The Beacon, an interesting local paper.)

Quick trivia question for you: to be done in less than 10 seconds. Here it is:

Which non-island county in the continental U.S. borders no other?

Give up? O.K. I know you won't believe this until you get out your atlas and see for yourself, so turn to the map of the Pacific Northwest, or alternatively, a map of Greater Vancouver (BC), or even Vancouver Island. You'll find that the celebrated 49th parallel ends near Blaine WA, at a body of water called Boundary Bay. But hold on! Take a boat along Boundary Bay's portion of the 49th parallel, and go a little ways and you come across a peninsula known as Point Roberts, about four miles square. South of the 49th, it is unquestionably U.S. territory, but the only way to get there by land is through the Boundary Bay border crossing on the north end, from South Delta/Tswassen BC. (Downtown Vancouver BC is a 45 minute drive to the north.)

What has this all got to do with you? Well, did you notice the *American* stamp on your last two issues (if you live in the U.S.)? You didn't? Well, maybe you noticed how fast you got your copy of XL. You didn't? Well hmmglmph, I'll go back to mailing your copy from Canada then; would you prefer that? You wouldn't? I don't blame you.

It was a cold, rainy day in Burnaby when Nan and I decided it was time to finally get the *American* copies of the zine mailed. Our mission: to smuggle 50 copies of XL across the border, purchase some American 39 cent stamps, and place them in a blue (not red) mailbox, then hightail it out of there before we were sent to an American jail for some heinous crime, or a Canadian one for selling state secrets or some equally-typical government inaccuracy.

Chris Carrier tells me he has, as official Hobby Feud Number Custodian, assigned a Feud Number to the feud between Bruce McIntyre and Canada Post. "Results:" says Chris in the soon to be appearing FNC publication, "outright win for McIntyre, who now mails American copies of XL from Point Roberts, WA!"

Getting to Point Roberts from North Burnaby is nowhere near as difficult as we had thought. Almost 70% of Greater-Vancouver transit buses go into downtown Vancouver and back out again. Thus, it only remained to find the one going the furthest south, and hop aboard. The ride took about forty-five minutes, and with some help from the bus driver, we reached 0 Avenue, and walked along to the border crossing. It was cold, wet, and gloomy, and since we had been basking in the summer sun only days before, we weren't quite prepared for it. We found out where the post office was by looking at a map in the Customs building, and once they were sure that we were who we said we wer, we began the two mile walk to the post office along Tye Drive.

Attention! All Drivers Going North!

Remember when there is a line-up to drive through the Canadian border to be sure and USE ONLY THE RIGHT HAND LANE OF TYEE DRIVE, REGARDLESS OF THE LENGTH OF THE LINE-UP. THE PASSING LANE MUST BE KEPT OPEN FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES ONLY.

Tye Drive is a three lane street. The shoulders are speckled with puddles galore, and when it rains, and you're walking, as we were, you have to watch both the road and the ground at the same time to avoid getting wet, or being thrown into the ditch by passing traffic. Our first stop was a Shell station, where we soon discovered the difference between Shell Canada and Shell in the U.S. In the U.S. they tell you flat out that there are no public washrooms. In Canada we say that they're out of order.

Here is a strange quirk. Art Pitchford enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1940, thereby losing his U.S. citizenship status to help the Canadians fight their war before the United States was involved. When the U.S. entered the war in 1941, an Act of Congress was passed, allowing U.S. enlistees in the Canadian forces to get their citizenship back, and vice versa for Canadians joining the U.S. forces. It is strange they didn't apply that act to current Americans/Canadians serving.

Finally we got to the post office, about halfway between the marina at the south end, and the border crossing at the north end, only to find them closed for lunch. We went across the street to get some lunch at a small fish and chips place, where we picked up a copy of the Pt. Roberts Beacon newspaper, which we read with interest.

It was Jan McParland, a reporter in Blaine, that had a real "Believe It Or Not" occurrence. This actually happened! She drove into a full-service station and filled her car with gasoline. The attendant, as they often do, forgot to put the gas tank cap back on (human error, again). On her way to Pt. Roberts the car began to spit and sputter, but finally made it to the Point. After two days of trying to discover the problem, they finally found it—a little bird, a swallow, had flown into the gas tank. Yes, a bird! It's true. I even saw the poor thing which obviously thought the gas tank was a neat place to nest. The car still does not operate properly and won't until all the feathers, and bird paraphernalia clear the entire fuel system.

Finishing lunch, we returned to the post office, bought some stamps with my leftover U.S. Dollars from DipCon, and started licking. After licking 50-odd stamps, we dropped off the issues in the nearest mail box, and walked back to the border, stopping at the Shell to pick up some Coke Classic which Nan tried to declare at the border, to the border guards great amusement. By 3:30 we were back in Downtown Vancouver.

Now, only two weeks later, I'm already getting responses back from people. Nobody's mentioned that they weren't mailed 'till Friday (as opposed to the usual Monday), and what I want to know is what the hell took me so long?



SUPERBOURSE : BARNO SHUT OUT

Superbourse has started, thanks to the massive influx of money from three Conference Call regulars. Following is the stats for the initial divvying up of stocks.

First of all, the players and their addresses:

Mike Barno, 2811 Robins St., Endwell NY, USA 13760
 Rob Lowes, RR#9, Peterborough ON, Canada K9J 6X1
 Sean P. McGonigle, 44B Kelvin Road, Papakura, NEW ZEALAND
 Simon Matthews, 432 N. Dollarton Hwy, N. Vancouver BC, V7G 1N1
 Conrad Minshall, 3702 Tarragona Lane, Austin TX, USA 78727
 Richard Sharp, 27 Elm Close, Amersham Bucks, UK HP6 5DD
 Bruce Waddell, 4247 Winnifred, Burnaby BC, V5J 2S5
 Mitchell Wageler, 3623 School Ave., Vancouver BC, Canada V5R 5N6

Yes, I know that's eight--I'm as excited as anyone at the prospect of such an interesting game. The eight abbreviations I shall use (in order) are MB, RL, SP, SM, CM, RS, BW, and MW. Note the two people with initials SM; Sean's the only one I know who has a middle initial--from what I've read, they call him S.P., which stands for "self propelled!" In any case the first chart is the bids I received, followed by the purchases made from these bids.

	FRANCE		AUSTRIA		ITALY		TURKEY		ENGLAND		RUSSIA		GERMANY	
	#	@	#	@	#	@	#	@	#	@	#	@	#	@
RS							100	16						
SP									20	15				
RL	20	10			5	10			20	10	10	10	5	10
MB					10	11	10	15	10	15				
SM									100	17	25	16	50	11
CM	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10
MW	10	13	100	14	10	13	10	13	1	20			100	14
BW	25	10	19	13	100	15								

And after the mayhem of sorting this all out, the pre-Spring 1901 holdings turned out to be as follows (with a few calculations thrown in):

SUPERBOURSE			Total Credit: \$146.80							Total	Total
Player	Original Credit	Cash	ENG	GER	RUS	TUR	AUS	ITA	FRA	Shares	Assets
GM		76.51	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	54	82.52
Sharp	24.00	12.00				<u>100</u>				100	20.35
McGonigle	6.00	3.40		20						20	5.07
Lowes	10.00	7.30			10				17	27	9.83
Barno	6.80	6.80								0	6.80
Matthews	35.00	14.12	<u>99</u>		<u>25</u>				<u>50</u>	174	29.34
Minshall	1.00	0.80			1				1	2	0.69
Wageler	40.00	17.07	1	<u>80</u>	10		<u>100</u>		10	201	34.13
Waddell	20.00	4.80						<u>100</u>	22	122	14.99
Market Prices			11	12	10	12	12	13	10		
Actual Value / Share			8.35	8.35	<u>1.13</u>	8.35	8.35	8.35	8.35		

Majority owners are underlined in the table, and of course must

offer for sale at least 5% of their holdings in that country for sale at no more than the market price, listed above. The formula I'll use to decide the actual value of shares is centres owned by that country/total centres owned multiplied by 80% of the total wagered (at this point \$76.51). If a value in that column is underlined, I haven't enough space to list the full amount, so add 10. (Thus Russia's actual value is now 11.13 cents/share.)

No press, but lots of questions, which I'll do my best to answer, in condensed print, I'm afraid (not much room):

CONRAD WINSHALL: I fear that the game, as currently defined, will be a fiasco. I see two problems...

1) The high cost of playing will deter any interested Superboursters. It did me, until I decided to let you know about the problem.

2) Anyone can buy the game. That is, by spending 60% of the funds sent to you, one could gain enough control to end the game in an immediate concession to the country one concentrated in most heavily...profiting! The solution to this is a rule like "A player's investment in the game may never exceed 20% of the average player investment." 20% may not be an ideal limit. The point is that there should be some limit--and that it should probably be based on the average investment per player.

A third problem, relatively minor, is that you don't specify what will be done if a player's bids exceed credit.

BM: First, I'd say that the very fact that we have eight people demonstrates that the stakes are not too high to attract enough interest. Would enough people be interested in a side game in which the nominal price is 5 cents a share? If so, I might be able to get Mitch or Bruce to run one, if I ask real nice....

In order to buy the game you have to spend a lot of money. First you have to be sure you outbid everyone on the countries you buy, which would mean you'd end up spending at least 13-15 cents/ share. To control the vote you'd need 351 shares, an investment of \$50, on which your win would cost you \$10 to the GM, although you'd gain 80% of the other's costs. But the risks involved are great: if you don't get your 351 shares right off, then you're stuck with 300 or so shares that were bought at highway robbery prices, and the other players will ally against you until you're forced to take a loss by selling 5% of your majority holdings at far less than cost. I don't think it's as big a worry as you seem to. In effect, there are seven separate Bourse periods, one for each country, with the countries in a new random order each time. Players who run out of credit during the purchasing of a successful bid buy as much as they can. The remainder is pro rated between the next players in line. If you run out of credit in the first country, your bids on all subsequent countries are dropped. Since you don't know what order the countries are going to come up each time, this forces you to watch your credit carefully!

MITCHELL WAGELER:

1) Can we place more than one bid on the shares of a country? No. Your bids denote the lowest acceptable sale price, or the highest acceptable buy price.

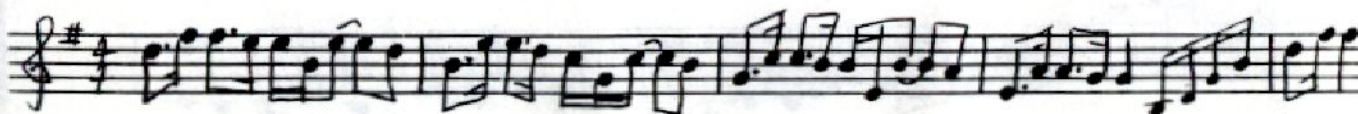
2) Can we make private deals for shares in a country or must we go through the GM/auction? You must be kidding. No. You have to go through the auction. This isn't one of Grant's hockey pools. I guess that answers your next two questions.

3) Can we cash in to the GM if we want out or circumstances require us to withdraw. Nope. You have to sell to the other players, although you are allowed to sell for less than original value. If you really wanted out, you could submit perpetual sell orders, and sign over your ordering power to someone else. But there will be no payouts until the conclusion of the game. So much for question 6, and I'll delete question 7 because it's the same as Rob Loves'...

4) Who gets the money for the shares of a country eliminated from the game? You, if you're crafty enough to convince someone to buy them!! Otherwise, you're stuck.

ROB LONES: I have a question on the method of determining the winner. Does it depend on how much starting cash is involved, how much capital is invested at one time, or a total of individual profits on each transaction? This is a money game--it depends on what your objectives are. If you want me to name an official winner, I'll do so on total assets gained when the game's over, but if all you want to do is parlay a dollar into two, and you do so, you're a winner as far as I'm concerned.

Spring 1901 orders are due November 8th, a day earlier if phoned in, and subject to a five week delay if two people want one.



by BRUX LINSEY

Hobbytalki is a tri-monthly column written jointly for the Canadian zine Excelsior and the British zine War & Peace. Opinions expressed herein are strictly those of Ed Wrobel's favorite person. The man has taste, what can I say?

These past few months have been lively ones in the hobby's zines, but in Steve Knight's case, "lively" was almost "deadly". The latest issue of It's a Trap has a long article by Steve relating how he chopped off part of his thumb on a Minnesota canoe trip. Steve is of course a friend to lots of people in the hobby, and we all wish him well in his recovery. Meanwhile, though, if he keeps printing articles about things like visits to MaryCon and canoeing adventures, I'm going to start a campaign to have him retitile his zine to It's a Tripi.

Before proceeding, I suppose I should mention to Excelsior's readers that I'll be running a short "Polltalk" section here next issue, to reply to Chris Carrier's letter in XL #6, and to answer a few letters I've received on the Runestone Poll.

Also, I have a few quick comments to those who replied to my debut Hobbytalki column. To Ron Krukowski: glad you enjoyed it. It seems that Turkey has indeed "won" the nod as the strongest defensive power in the game, Trivial Pursuit notwithstanding. To Mark Solomon: So what's wrong with the phrase, "What trash..."? To Andrew Glynn: Did you really think I was serious when I wrote "campane", "perge", and "hobbie"?! But I must confess to total unfamiliarity with the British/Canadian dialect, so that words like "honour" and "cheque" will appear misspelled to you, unless the editors of XL and W&P choose to clean them up, OK?

Congratulations are in order, I understand, to Paul Simpkins. No, not for reaching the fiftieth issue of his zine, Bruce, but rather for giving his zine the most brilliant, aesthetically pleasing name of all time. Now you know why I'm subbing -- though it must be noted also that Bruce is in fact a very pleasant, homey little zine in its own right. Good luck on the next fifty, Paul.

Yggdrasill Chronicle is the latest zine to succumb to the computer bug currently flitting about the hobby, as Howie Dawson has started adjudicating Diplomacy using Avalon Hill's new adjudication program. YC is a rather obscure zine, perhaps more so than any other in America, by the way. But it runs a nice variety of games for those who like that, including a section of postal Stocks and Bonds (which I assume is the same as the game of that name currently produced by Avalon Hill). S & B is a game well-suited to postal play; old-time Voice of Doom readers may recall that I once ran a game of it outside the zine, and it worked nicely. YC also runs En Gardel and Freedom in the Galaxy.

One of the most entertaining writers in the British hobby -- no, make that the entire hobby -- has got to be Pete Birks of the well-known Greatest Hits. Pete manages a betting shop, which provides (as one might expect) much fertile ground for entertaining editorials. The Latest Hits (hyork, hyork...I did that to save a little space; it's short for "latest Greatest Hits"!) contained a delightful account of a lunatic woman customer who was "patronizing" Pete's shop, till the authorities finally took her away. But, to read it you'll have to write Pete and order a copy of GH 124. GH as a zine is sort of like Christmas in that it's always received with joy, but just doesn't come often enough.

Back to the American scene, I see that Stephen Dycus has begun a subzine to Dave Kleiman's established The Diplomat. In the debut issue of his Komerex ZHA, Stephen informs us of one of his more unusual practices, writing, "I am 34 years old, married, and have a 3 year old daughter. I have been laying FTF Dip for years...". (No, he doesn't

reveal what his wife thinks of this.) In any event, I too have been laying Dip for years, though I've come to prefer the postal position instead of FTF. (And occasionally, we do it Bad Doggie style...thus one of my current nicknames.) However, I must add a note of caution: at one point quite a few people got VD as a by-product of laying Dip, so we might assume that she really gets around...

Diplomacy World #40, just out, contains still another hilarious essay about Shep Rose: the Sleaziest Diplomacy Player of All Time. In Mark Berch's latest set of revelations, he has Shep setting up an entire zine and a phone publisher just for the sake of winning a Diplomacy game. The article is a classic of hobby fiction, and is the entire Shep Rose series. DW #40 is, by the way, a true gem of an issue.

Speaking of hobby fiction reminds me of one Tom Hurst, whose stories about people attempting to bribe the BNC and sending "vulgar obscene filth" to little children are hilarious indeed. It seems that Tom has started up still another version of the Zine Register, to go along with the models currently being produced by Roy Henricks and Robert Sacks. All of these Zine Registers seem a bit much for my tastes (why should we need more than one source for the same information?) but at least the situation has given me an idea for yet another hobby service project. That's right, folks, coming soon from a famous address in Dalton will be the (hold your breath!) Zine Register Register, which will be a catalogue of all Zine Registers in existence...

Bohemian Rhapsody Vol blehh, No blahh (don't you just hate it when publishers don't assign proper numbers to their issues?) contains a very entertaining write-up of MaryCon, including photos. Publisher Malc Smith won an award for being the hobbyist who traveled farthest to show up (he lives in Belgium); rumor has it that next year, the award will go to Bruce McIntyre and Nancy Hurrell, who plan to come from Vancouver. MaryCon will be the host con for DipCon '86, a decision which I heartily approve, as MaryCon is easily the most successful large con I've ever attended (large meaning too big to take place in someone's home). I'll be there next year, too...

The July issue of The Alamo City Times contains the following set of orders for Melinda Holley's Autria in 1979JZ: "(A SIL S (A MUN S A SIL H))". Egads, talk about your Wrobesque convolutions! I've GMed games for five years, and haven't the slightest idea of what A Sil is supposed to be doing in the above example. Tact is John Walker's pleasant zine from (where else?) San Antonio.

Liberterrean is being transferred from Jim Bumpas to Kevin Kozlowski after 229 issues of ultra-reliable publishing by Jim. Kudos to Jim, and good luck to Kevin. I've not seen very many American zines change hands this way since I've been in the hobby; usually a publisher who's quitting simply folds. Meanwhile, Lib's readers await that zine's "new look" with baited breath. As Jim himself put it, "The Lib is dead, long live the Lib!"

The "Oddball Abbreviation Award" goes to Howard Christis of the relatively new zine, Stab-back. Howard uses the abbreviation "Unk" as a matter of course in his games, for "Ukraine". (Now, ain't that niece?!) Worse than that, though, are the British zines (most of them? All of them?) that use "Nor" for Norway. To most American GM's (including myself, back when I was running games), "Nor" is a vile creation of the unseasoned novice, to be pounced upon and ridiculed; but never, mind you, accepted. Sort of like "Liv" and "Tro", I suppose; but "Nor" is more notorious and gets more negative press. But I digress. Stab-back is an up-and-coming zine, and issue #16 announces the start of a letter column! Here's one vote for unbutchered letters, not bits and pieces, Howard!

Talk about your unreliable players and GMs, 1981AQ is well worth a look. The situation was so bad in this game that one of the two surviving original players, Ken Hager, remarks in his end-game statement that "This wasn't a Diplomacy game, it was a hobby project a la Larry

Peery. A grand total of 23 people participated, including 5 GMs!" AQ is reported on in the pages of Diplomag, the publication of the Mensa Diplomacy SIG (Special Interest Group) which is currently published by Bruce Poppe.

Our own Excelsior, issue #7, features a picture of publishers Bruce and Nancy on the front cover, drawn by the talented Patricia Post. The picture of Nancy is a hobby first for me: it's the first time ever that someone has looked exactly as I imagined him/her, an unusual state of affairs indeed. But that drawing is precisely how I pictured Nancy, and I'm pleased to see my image confirmed for once. Excelsior, by the way, is one of the very best zines currently being published anywhere, and no, I'm not just saying that because this column is going to XL. A recent issue of Pete Gaughan's zine had Pete making the absurd claim that under normal circumstances, XL would not have made the top ten in the '85 Zine Poll. I don't know what Pete means by "normal circumstances", but as far as I'm concerned there is no zine that finished below XL and deserved to finish higher, with the possible exception of Diplomacy Digest. If there are indeed ten zines out there of higher quality than XL, I only wish Pete would let me know about them, as I've no idea what they are, other than that I'm sure I've never had the privilege of seeing them! That issue of XL, by the way, was mailed from Pt. Roberts, Washington, in the U.S.; and got here in just about three days. I have this feeling that the Canadian postal service has lost Bruce McIntyre's business for good.

Prisoners of War issue 4 arrived via leisurely surface mail from Scotland the other day, though it was apparently published in early June (and this is being typed in mid-September!). It seems that American football is rapidly catching on in Britain, and PoW is running a simulation of the game called Touchdown! As is the case with many of these sports games played by serious gamers (as opposed to some of the cheapskate products one finds in the store), this simulation seems to be quite well thought-out and designed, with provisions for coaching, injuries, etc., etc. I'm glad to see the interest in American football spreading, as in my opinion it is easily the best-designed (and most entertaining) sport in existence. Not that I'm any good at playing football, mind you -- I'll stick to my beloved frisbee. But for the spectator, there is no greater entertainment. Anybody notice that, with both the 49ers and Dolphins suffering first-week upsets, there seem to be no dominating teams in the NFL this year?

Anyhow, PoW is a fairly typical, if largish, British zine in that it seems to run a large number of different games. One of the worst features of the zine is the scheme the publishers use for naming their Dip games: "Amphetamine", "Barbituate", "Cocaine" and so on. Yawn. Let me know when you get to "LSD" guys, and I'll suggest you rename your zine "It's a Trip". Or did I already use that line somewhere, in a different context?

Slipping a teensy bit of "Polltalk" into this column, the most oft-repeated criticism I've received regarding The Cream Shall Rise is that the pages and pages of preference matrix results made for boring reading. Bob O'Donnell and Patrick Conlon, at the very least, both made that comment, with Michael Lee tactfully saying that the designs on those pages looked like some form of modern art. I agree with this criticism if one views that part of TCSR as having been meant to read -- actually, I included the pref matrix pages for reference purposes, not as intended reading material. (This is, I suspect, similar to Everything's policy in printing all game starts and results, and to Stephen Wilcox's Dragon's Tooth results: I doubt if many people find such material interesting to read in toto, but those are reference works.) Tentatively, I plan to run the full pref matrix again next year, but comments are of course welcome. How'd I get onto this?

The Razor's Edge, a handsome new zine put out by the precocious James Early, offers a contest of a sort I haven't seen anywhere before.

CHES

	WHITE (me)	BLACK (you)
1.	P-K4	P-K4
2.	N-KB3	N-QB3
3.	B-B4	N-B3
4.	N-B3	B-B4
5.	O-O	O-O
6.	P-Q3	P-KR3
7.	P-QR3	???

Wow! A 2-2 tie over which end pawn to push. Conrad Minshall's P-KR3 was the first received, so that's what goes. Scorers: Minshall (5, leads), Krukowski (3).

OTHELLO

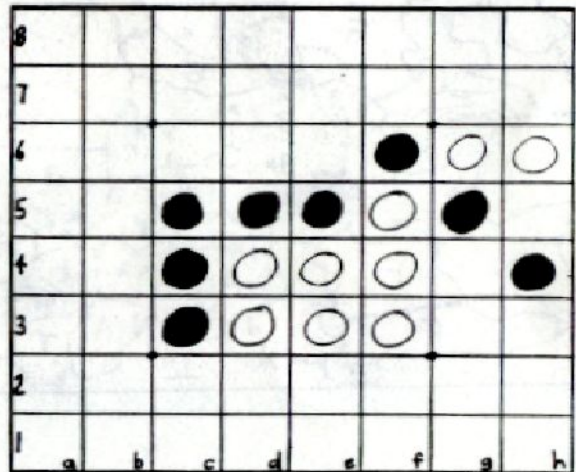
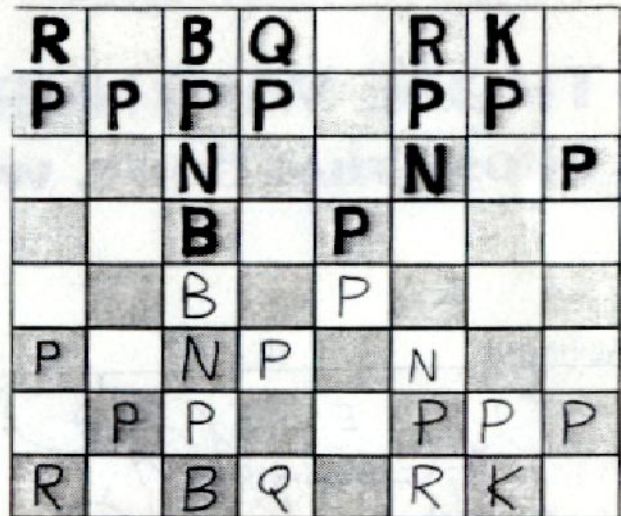
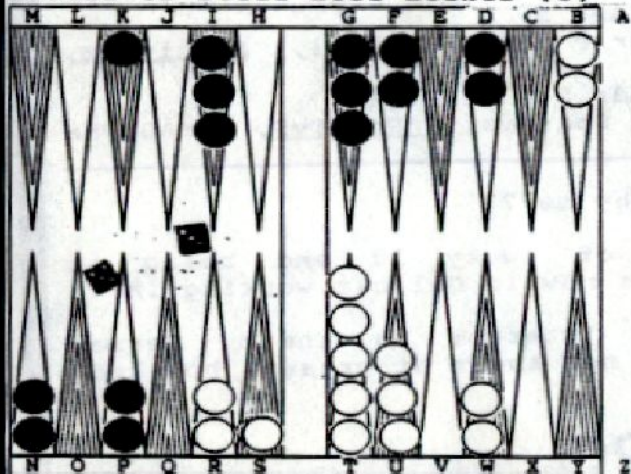
	BLACK (me)	WHITE (you)
1.	f4	f3
2.	e3	f5
3.	f6	d3
4.	c3	c4
5.	g5	h6
6.	h4	g6
7.	c5	???

Scorers: Minshall (3), and Krukowski (2). Bill Becker still leads with 5.

BACHGAMMON

	WHITE (me)	roll	BLACK (you)
1.	6-3 MP MS	3-2	N-I
2.	3-2 RU SU	6-3	Y-P'
3.	1-1 A-D TU	5-3	ID' GD
4.	6-4 A-K	3-1	IF GF
5.	6-2 KQ MO	6-3	Y-P
6.	6-1 QW RS	5-3	NI NK
7.	5-5 OT RW MR	5-3	???

A close 4-3 decision for NI NK over N-F. Scorers: Minshall (4), Richmond (3), and Barno (3). Leader is still Bill Becker (5)



My Move/Your Move

Supplies OWNERSHIP OF CENTRES

GAME: ALBINONI-85AA

See page 31 for stand-bys.

post-FALL 1902

ENGLAND 3	TURKEY 5 ^(B)	NEUTRALS 1
Edi (E) E	Ank (T) T	Bel (G) G
Lpl (E) E	Con (T) T	Bul (T) T
Lon (E) E	Smy (T) T	Den (G) G
GERMANY 6 ^(B)	AUSTRIA 5	Gre (A) A
Ber (G) G	Bud (A) A	Hol (G) G
Kie (G) G	Tri (A) A	Nwy (E) E
Mun (F) F	Vie (A) A	Por (F) F
RUSSIA 4	ITALY 4	Rum (A) A
Mos (R) R	Nap (I) I	Ser (N) N
StP (R) R	Rom (I) I	Spa (F) F
Sev (T) T	Ven (I) I	Swe (R) R
War (R) R	FRANCE 5	Tun (I) I
	Bre (F) F	
	Mar (F) F	
	Par (F) F	

ALBINONI

THOSE WHO NMR SHALL BUILD THOSE THAT DON'T, WON'T

ALBINONI Dramatis Personae

GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby B.C., V5B 2L4

ENG: Bill Shirley, 618 Main St., Yarmouth NS, B5A 1J9

GER: Charles Arsenaault, 4490 St. Kevin#7, Montreal PQ, H3Y 1H9

RUS: Kevin Brown, 100 Patton Dr., Warner Robins GA, USA 31093

TUR: Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV, USA 25727

AUS: Michael Ditz, 5785 Danube Way#C, Orlando FL, USA 32807

ITA: Steve Dycus, 3450 Koring Rd., Evansville IN, USA 47712

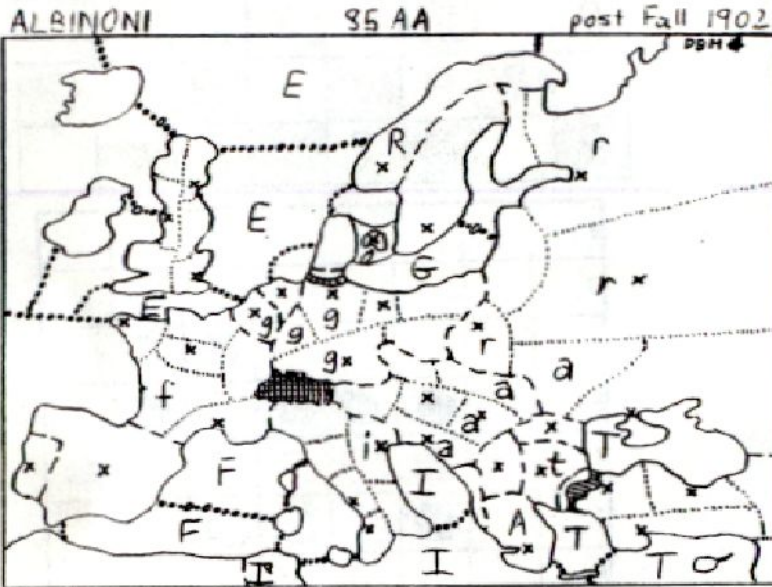
FRA: Ron Krukowski, 5339 W. Eddy, Chicago IL, USA 60641

Summer 1902 Retreat:

FRA: A Mun r Boh

ENG: A Swe r OTB(NRR)

RUS: A Ukr r War



NEXT DEADLINE (Winter 02-Spring 03) is Friday, November 8 1985--one day earlier if phoned in.

ALBINONI 1985AA Fall 1902 Orders

- ENGLAND F Nth-Nwy, F Nrg S F Nth-Nwy, F Lon-Nth
 GERMANY NMR! A Kie S, A Ruh S, A Mun S, A Bel S, F Bal S
 RUSSIA A War-Ukr, A Mos-Ukr, A StP S F Nwy, F Nwy skips stones in the Skag (Holds)
 TURKEY NMR! F Bla S, A Bul S, F EMe S, F Aeg S
 AUSTRIA A Tri H, A Bud S A Tri, F Gre S Tur F Aeg-Ion (NSO), A Gal-Vie, A Ukr S A Gal-Vie (Imp)
 ITALY A Tun H, F Ion-TyS, A Ven-Tri, F Adr S A Ven-Tri
 FRANCE A Boh-Vie, A Pic-Tyo, A Pic-Bel, A Spa-Gas, F GoL-TyS, F MAO-WMe

PRESS:

Maestro: Two NMRs, and both get builds. Why me???

Moscow-Maestro: OK, I'll ignore the map.

Vienna: Hyster being at the ripe old age of lucky 13 and being an Austrian National has been arrested. He is now in Galicia working in a labor camp.

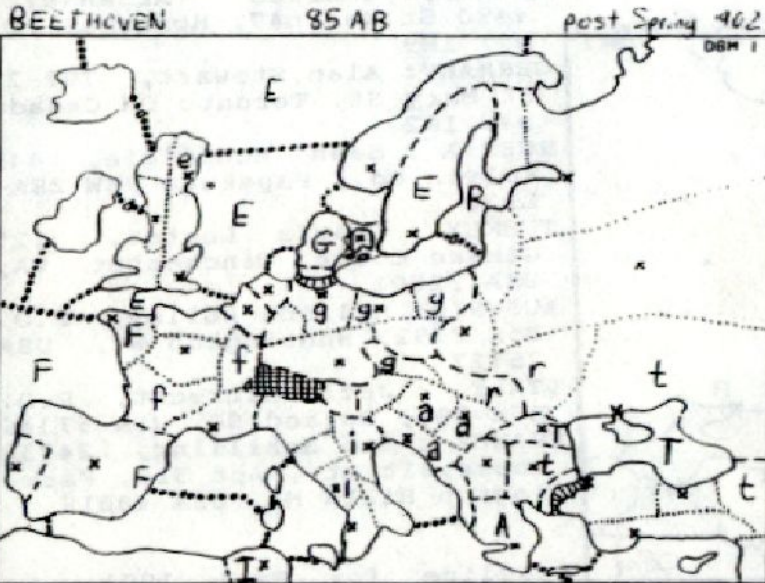
Burgundy: French peasants watched with interest as their German neighbors held manoevers this week. It is not known at present how long these manoevers will last.

Paris-Vienna: Thanks for the invitation!

BEETHOVEN

RUSSIA BLITZED ITALY ASLEEP

BEETHOVEN Dramatis Personae



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby BC, V5B 2L4

ENG: Mitch Wageler, 3623 School Ave, Vancouver BC, Canada V5R 5N6

GER: Mike Barno, 2811 Robins St., Endwell NY, USA 13760

RUS: Pierre Touchette, 1 rue Georges, Masson PQ, J0X 2H0

TUR: Alan Stewart, 702-25 St. Mary St., Toronto ON, M4Y 1R2

AUS: Robert Acheson, c/o Echo Bay Mines, Lupin NWT, X0E 1M0

ITA: Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV, USA 25727

FRA: Steve Cooley, 3551 Casamia Ave, Palmsdale CA, USA 93550

NEXT DEADLINE (Fall 1902) is Friday November 8, 1985--one day earlier if phoned in.

BEETHOVEN 1985AB Spring 1902 Orders

ENGLAND F Bel-Eng, F Lon-Nth, A Yor-Edi, F Edi-Nrg, F Nor-Swe
 GERMANY F Den S Eng F Nwy-Swe, A Mun-Boh, A Ber-Pru, A Kie-Ber, A Hol-Kie
 RUSSIA F GoB-Swe, A War-Gal, A Vie*\$ Ita A Tyo-Tri [NSO][BOOM!], F Rum*H[BOOM!], A Ukr S A War-Gal
 TURKEY F Sev-Rum, A Bul S F Sev-Rum, A Arm-Sev, F Con-Bla, A Smy-Arm
 AUSTRIA A Tri-Vie, A Bud S A Tri-Vie, A Ser-Tri, F Gre H
 ITALY NMR
 FRANCE F Mar-Spa, F Por-MAO, A Spa-Gas, A Bur S Ger A Kie-Mun[NSO], F Bre H

PRESS:

Bud-Ank: Yes, but no one does it better than the one in Willowdale.

Bud-Mos: Potential allies do not invite themselves into their compatriots home centres. If you want to show good intent retreat A Bud OTB.

Maestro: Shouldn't that be A Vie? Or does he have one in Bud too?

Bud-GM: I won't be able to run a hockey pool, but will play in one of yours.

Argo-Lion: Your team was very lucky--I'd say that if Turner had played the game, your team would have lost.

Maestro: I must admit the Lions owe the Argos a big thank-you for beating the Blue Bombers--something I'm not entirely certain that we'll be able to do.

Bud-Ber: Good move on Sweden; Russia certainly didn't need three builds.

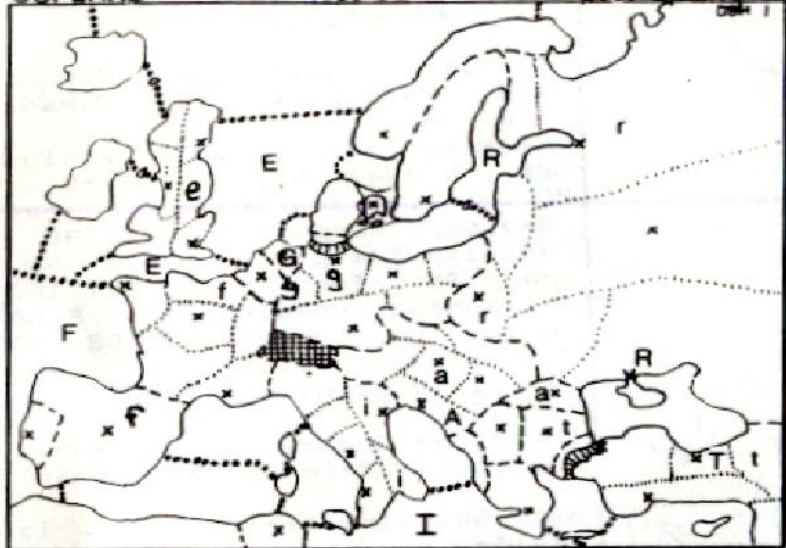
Bud-Rome: I'm a strong believer in women's liberation (snicker,

COPLAND

ENGLAND TAKES ITS CHANNEL Is SEVASTOPOL safe?

COPLAND Dramatis Personae

COPLAND 1985 CG post Spring '01



ENGLAND: Charles Arsenault, 4490 St. Kevin #7, Montreal PQ, H3T 1H9

GERMANY: Alan Stewart, 702-25 St Mary St. Toronto ON Canada M4Y 1R2

RUSSIA: Sean McGonigle, 44B Kelvin Rd., Papakura NEW ZEALAND

TURKEY: Travis Laster, 125 Garden Court, Winchester VA, USA 22601

AUSTRIA: Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV, USA 25727

ITALY: Jeff Albrecht, P.O. Box 295, Doland SD, USA 57346

FRANCE: Ben Schilling, 24730 Roosevelt Ct., Apt 315, Farmington Hills MI, USA 48018

Deadline for Fall 1901 is Friday November 8, 1985. One day earlier if phoned in.

COPLAND 1985CG Spring 1901 Orders

ENGLAND F Lon-Eng, F Edi-Nth, A Lpl-Yor
 GERMANY F Kie-Hol, A Ber-Kie, A Mun-Ruh
 RUSSIA F StP-GoB, A Mos-StP, F Sev-Bla, A War-Gal
 TURKEY A Con-Bul, F Ank-Bla, A Smy-Arm
 AUSTRIA A Bud-Rum, A Vie-Gal, F Tri H
 ITALY A Ven H, A Rom-Apu, F Nap-Ion
 FRANCE A Par-Pic, A Mar-Spa, F Bre-MAO

PRESS:

GM: Two players sent me changes of orders without any indication that I was to print the press which appeared on the original set, so poof, they're gone!

London: Despite the fact that France and Germany are good friends of England, the government has decided that the English Channel and the North Sea will always be secured.

Maestro: It was this press item, and the fact that I vaguely recall from my high school French that "north" is spelled *Nord* in Quebec, that kept your F Edi out of the Norwegian Sea. *Fait attention!*

Constantinople-Vienna and Paris: Good thing you wrote, I was beginning to think this was a Gunboat game!

Constantinople: The tension could be cut with a scimitar in the highly domed room at the center of the Porte, but the only thing that was cleaved was the mutton hewn from the sides of a huge ewe, lying before the Sultan.

DEATH THREATS AND TWISTED SISTERS

DEBUSSY

85??

Winter 01

DEBUSSY



GM: Mitchell Wageler 3263 School Ave
Vancouver, BC V5R 5N6
Phone: 604-435-3299

E: Dennis Quine 55 Rosemoor Drive
Little Rock, ARK, 72209

G: Pierre Touche 1 Rue Georges Mason,
Pd, J0X 2H0

R: Alan Stewart 702-25 St. Mary St.
Toronto, ON, M4Y 1R2

T: Ron Krukowski 5339 W. Eddy
Chicago, IL 60641

A: Randolph Smyth 119-70 Maryland St.
Winnipeg, MB R3G 1K7

I: Kevin Brown 100 Patton Drive
Warner Robbins, GA 31093

F: Bruce Waddell 4247 Winnifred St.
Burnaby, BC V5J 2S5

PETFEATS - FALL 01

RUS - F RUM - OTB

BUILDS - WINTER 01

F: F - MAR, F - BRE, A - PAR

R: A - WAR, A - SEV

I: A - VEN

T: F - CON, F - SMY

E: F - LON

A: A - BUD

G: F - BER

PRESS: ROM - WORLD: Let's all give one of our sisters to the GM and play a variant in which everyone knows everyone else's orders before sending in his own.

ROM-GM: Is that kind of variant possible?

GM-ROM: There may be some time space continuity problems but I'm game. However This may have to be cleared by my wife as she types the moves.

CON-ROM: Sorry, but after your recent correspondence, I had no choice.

CON-VIE: Don't try it!

ENGLAND - FRANCE: You die if I see F Brest.

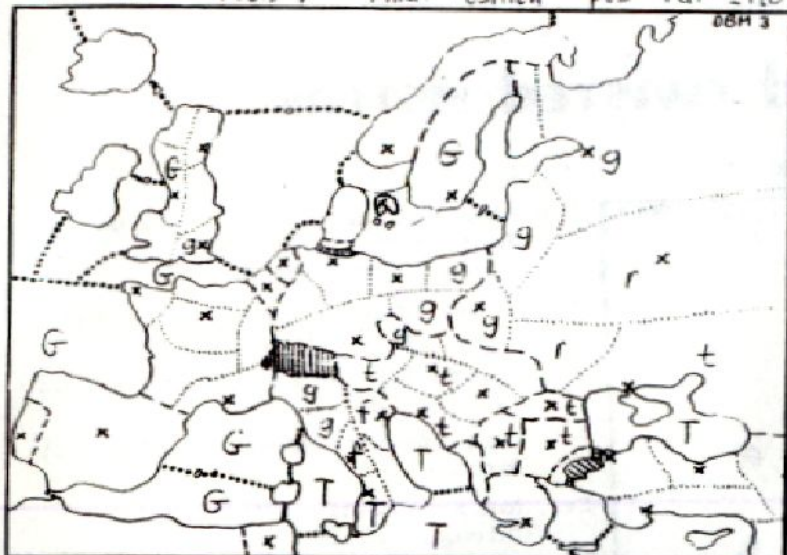
GERMANY - THE CZAR: Make up your mind!

MOS-VIE: Sometimes the strong guy, too.

MOS-GM: For my next feat, I will hold off not one nor two but three angry Neighbours.

MOVES FOR SPRING 02 DUE THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE THE DEADLINE FOR ALBINONI.

MENSA 17 1983 V Final Position post Fall 1910



IT'S OVER

Summer 1910 Retreats:

ENGLAND: F Lpl r OTB

As you all saw, the attack of the yellow Turkish units upon the light blue French units turned the area into a region of green units which might have been taken for the resurgence of Dave Carter's Italy. Well, unfortunately, this isn't the case. The unit in the Tyrrhenian Sea is in fact Turkish, and reappearing on the board this time are the French units in the Italian centres. In addition, I've moved the German fleet back to the Gulf of Bothnia. By the way, the concession failed, but since Germany has captured his 18th on this move, that doesn't really matter too much.

Send end-game statements to Steve or me; they'll be run concurrently in XL and NFA. It occurs to me that this will be my first official endgame statement. Wonder if anyone's ever submitted their first-ever endgame statement as a GM before. Hmmmm.....

Supplies OWNERSHIP OF CENTRES

GAME: MENSA17 (1983 V) (from NFA)

post-FALL 1910

ENGLAND	GERMANY	RUSSIA	TURKEY	AUSTRIA	ITALY	FRANCE	NEUTRALS
Edi (G) G	Ber (G) G	Mos (R) R	Ank (T) T	Bud (T) T	Nap (F) T	Bre (G) G	Bel (G) G
Lpl (E) G	Kie (G) G	StP (R) G	Con (T) T	Tri (T) T	Rom (F) F	Mar (G) G	Bul (T) T
Lon (G) G	Mun (G) G	Sev (T) T	Smy (T) T	Vie (T) T	Ven (F) F	Par (G) G	Den (G) G
		War (R) G					Gre (T) T
							Hol (G) G
							Nwy (G) G
							Por (G) G
							Rum (T) T
							Ser (T) T
							Spa (G) G
							Swe (G) G
							Tun (T) T

MENSA 17 (NFA) (1983 V) Fall 1910 Orders

ENGLAND (Kevin Brown) [no units]

GERMANY (Ron Brown) F GoB-Swe, A StP S Rus A Mos, A Lva S A War, A Pru S A War, A War S Rus A Ukr, A Sil S A Boh, A Boh S Tur A Vie (moving), A Pie S Fra A Ven, A Spa-Tus, F GoL C A Spa-Tus, F WMe S Tur F Ion-Tun (NSO), F NAO-MAO, A Lon H, F Nth-Eng, F Lpl H

RUSSIA (Dave Lincoln) NMR. A Mos S, A Ukr S

TURKEY (Paul Milewski) F TyS-Rom, F Apu-Nap, F Ion S F Apu-Nap, A Tri-Ven, F Adr S A Tri-Ven, A Vie-Tyr, A Gal-Vie, A Bul-Ser, A Arm-Bul, F Bla C A Arm-Bul, A Rum S A Sev, A Sev S Rus A Mos

FRANCE (John Ellis) NMR. A Ven S, A Rom S, F Nap*S

PRESS:

GM: That's it, as you can see by the SC chart. Unfortunately, I've no idea of the end-game stats for this one, so I suppose that'll appear in NFA, and when it does, I'll reprint it here. It's been nice having you all aboard, and I hope you've enjoyed your stay here, despite the fact

that my maps have been very erratic, to say the least.....

Germany-World: Thank you, kind sirs. No, I don't feel victorious. I just feel like someone who submitted orders every season and now it's over. I did not play particularly well, nor did I invest much into the Diplomacy side. Most of the ones left are not to blame, but while your predecessors were NMRing every second season, I just kept on ordering my units.

I won Mensa 10 the same way, except there so many people NMRed towards the end game that some old fogey decided it wasn't fair and tried to label the game "Irregular" or some such. But the tradition seems so deeply entrenched I don't think there's any question these days that wins due to NMRs of other players are normal. Sad, but true. Next time we meet I hope it's more of a fair fight from beginning to end. I'd rather fight than push blocks around on a board. And I'd rather lose a good fight than collect another of these victories....

Invisible Englishman-Germany: I voted yes, so if it fails it's not my fault. Maestro: Does it matter??

Invisible Englishman-Maestro: If the concession passes, do I survive?

Maestro: Yes, because the Fall 1910 moves wouldn't be played, so you'd have official control of Liverpool at game end. Unfortunately.....

BEETHOVEN--1985 AB continued

snicker). So, why don't you go and liberate some of those oppressed *mademoiselles*?

Germany-Russia: What, this? Nothing for you to worry about; we're just attending a family reunion in Koln.

Dieppe-Maestro: Unfortunately, my French-English dictionary washed overboard off the Portuguese coast--translation please? Of course, if it's something inane like "You love water?", don't bother.

Maestro: You're pretty close--it means "But which sea-space?" Looks like you haven't yet decided...

Ank-Maestro: 4-1? OK, I want to put down \$10 against me.

Maestro: Oh no you don't. I don't accept *misere* bets. If you want to bet on yourself that's O.K.

Ank-Lon: "Your ships have hearts of oak, your men are jolly tars."

Ank-Maestro: Bay of Biscay?

Ank-Maestro [after scratching out half the page]: Quiet! Censor at work. If only the press I leave in were as good as that I cut out.

Munich to temporary inhabitants of Vienna: Can't have you retreating to Bohemia, you understand.

Maestro: Not to worry, he won't be going there...

COPLAND continued

The Sultan, displaying his internal torment as he ripped the ewe's remaining eye from her head and consumed it in one gulp, his mustache twitching in pleasure, finally spoke: "We must defeat Russia." The words struck fear into the hearts of many generals--had not Turkey just lost the Crimean War? Even the ache for revenge fell short of such foolhardy audacity. But the will of the Sultan reigned, and the generals filed from the room to lead their troops in the assault.

As the last general left, the Sultan again spoke, his meal finished, now contentedly smoking his hookah. Turning to an aide, the Commander of the Faithful commanded: "Send Rolz'imgoud, our National Champion, to challenge the Russians to a Backgammon match. We'll beat the harem pants off 'em. And where did the generals go?" The horror grew on the aide's face as he realized the mistake. He rushed after the departed commanders, but it was too late; the orders had been given, the troops mobilized, the attacks launched. Turkey was forced to fight a war she did not want. Or did she?

Most of the Post

Three people (and myself as commentator) decided to answer the questions about NFP/OTR letter labels last time, and while I realize this is only a square (as opposed to round)-table discussion, I guess it's as good a place as any to begin...

The first question was "Should abusive NFP letters be printed anyhow?"

KEVIN BROWN: My answer is an emphatic no. Exposing abusive letters usually has but one effect, to make the writer more abusive. The thing I do with abusive letters, NFP or not, is had them up and toss them in the trash. Think about how far this feud would have gotten if no one would print abusive letters.

BRUX LINSEY: Abusive NFP letters should be exposed and printed only if there is a compelling reason to do so. If they consist of general name-calling or whatever, probably not. The writer demeans himself by writing such a letter...but so does the publisher if he prints it.

CHRIS CARRIER: Abusive OTR/NFP letters should be printed. Someone who writes an OTR/NFP letter is asking the recipient a favour. A hate letter with an NFP label is like saying "could you do me a favour ... by the way, you're an asshole." OTR/NFP is to protect confidences, not as a shield for personal abuse. If someone were to write me an OTR/NFP letter calling me a bunch of names, I would write the sender informing him that any future OTR/NFP labels will not be honoured.

BM: I think I agree with Chris on this one. But then the central point of Kevin's answer is relevant for me as well: I can handle "postal downers" up to a certain point, then I go overboard and make one of my fruitless attempts (example in point: these questions) to try to stop it. A recent conversation I had with Brux on this showed me that he agrees with the "one-warning" system Chris describes as well.

The second question asked for shorter, more concise definitions of OTR/NFP:

BRUX: NFP means that "I don't want this to see print, though I don't mind if you discuss it with others. Use discretion." OTR means "I am telling you this in confidence as I feel a need to do so. Please do not discuss it with anyone else."

KEVIN: A good short description of what someone is trying to say by using NFP is "Please do not print this." Simplistic, but using the NFP label doesn't necessarily imply that you should tell the recipient why you are using it. The reason could be something the reader wouldn't shouldn't, or even couldn't understand in some circumstances. The NFP label is simply a request for privacy in a hobby where most anything is likely to be printed.

OTR is not a term that fits in well in a hobby context. Most people in the hobby use it interchangeably with NFP. I think that under most circumstances OTR should be treated the same as NFP.

CHRIS: NFP = PLEASE do not print. You may discuss with other people FTF or over phone but PLEASE do not make any copies or otherwise distribute this letter. OTR = Please do not discuss this information with anyone.

BM: Not much to say here, except that I'm glad to have someone explain all this to me so that I don't feel I'm breaking the rules whenever I think about something I get with one of those ominous markings.

The third question wanted a situation in which an OTR letter would be advisable:

CHRIS: When you want to gauge a person's reactions to something which you wish to keep a private matter, without spending \$\$\$ on a phone call.

BRUX: There are many instances in which the NFP and OTR labels are both legitimate and advisable. You are planning a hobby hoax in secret with another person, so your letters to him on the topic would be labelled

OTR. You want the writer of an editorial to know you agree with his opinion, but you aren't prepared to have the whole hobby know about it. That letter can reasonably be labeled either NFP or OTR (depending on the feelings of the writer). And so on. I use the label all the time, when I feel it necessary. A few unethical publishers have chosen not to respect it, but that reflects more on them than on me. All these labels really say is that there are some things you'd like to tell people, while at the same time having them remain out of the domain of general knowledge. I see nothing wrong with that. (There was a 20+ page discussion on this very topic in VoD #69; 50 cents will get anyone a copy.)

BM: I guess my feeling is that the labels put an unfair burden on the recipient, and the more remarkable the news, the bigger the burden. Brux, if you and I were, say, faking a prominent zine, why would you feel you had to mark all your letters OTR? It'd be quite obvious, wouldn't it? I guess I just hate keeping secrets.

The last question "What record?????", was answered by Chris and Brux with "The public record." Fine, marvelous. Uh, what public record? Oh, here's Kevin to tell us:

KEVIN: In this context, "the record is anything printed in a zine with a reasonable number of subscribers. A good estimate might be around 20.

BM: I'm sure you can guess my problem with that theory right away--I can just see a waiting list for one of the twenty copies of the "Yes, we print OTR letters--and ethically too" zine. Or a shrewd pubber might make five slightly different copies of his cover page to print them to an audience of 100.

That's about all the response I got, and valid conclusions might well be that a) there is a place for these labels in the Hobby's business, but they seem to be getting more usage every day, leading one to wonder as to the reason why; b) the Catch-22 situation facing the recipient of an abusive NFP/OTR letter creates a loophole that can be (and apparently has been) exploited; c) there seems to be a feeling that contemporary publishers have poorer judgement as to what is suitable for print, which may be the cause behind the increased use of these labels.

Going on to other topics:

STEVE LANGLEY: Last month I sent you a small "For Print" blurb that I hoped you would print. If you object to it, let me know and I'll try to come up with something you can deal with.

I read both Kevin Brown and Stephen Swigger's comments and your response and would like to correct one small misapprehension. The Feud has no majority backing and both sides know it (at least I know it and I doubt the other side is so self deluded as to believe otherwise). It has little to do with the majority. It is a street fight in an otherwise fairly civilized society. The best Kevin & Stephen (and you for that matter) can do is ignore it. Showing concern, however well meant, only feeds the egos that fuel the feud.

BM: I should add that Bruce Linsey confirmed for me his belief that the feud has no majority backing. There is support for the contray, though. Apparently Ben Schilling has stated publicly that 85% of the hobby is against, well you know the rest. While it may confidently be stated that a fair majority of the Dip population is not into feuding, poll your sublist on the following question: What percentage of pubbers are involved in the feud?, and you'll surprise me if you get an average of under 60%. In fact, it's getting so that one mistake will "brand" you as being on one side of this thing, whatever that may mean. For me it has been very frustrating--first I found out that a third of the pubbers in the Hobby wouldn't use my zine as toilet paper just because I'd given thanks to a few people who helped me get started, then I slowly began to realize that this wasn't the case, that there are many people with different viewpoints who can and will discuss the feud calmly and without malice. What I'm trying to say is that it is hard for

publishers to completely ignore feuding, because as a publisher, they are sought after by both sides. He who controls the press will win the war seems to be the motto of the day--and I'm not going to go along. Especially since I'm still quite undecided on many issues.

As for your "For Print" blurb, I'll just say here reluctantly, and for the record (What record??) that Steve sent me a correction to some of the material in TNFH#1, because all of you apparently were sent a copy. Apparently Mark Berch sent a \$6 sub cheque to Steve before they decided to trade zines, and if I'm interpreting correctly, this means that Mark did not cheat you, or at least as much as you thought. I don't like doing this one bit, Steve, as the responses I've been getting to your TNFH mailing were quite negative for the most part--and thus I really don't think anybody really cares, except the few TNFH subbers, who know about the correction by now anyhow.

CHRIS CARRIER (in a letter marked "An open letter to the XL sub list"): Many of you were upset by mass mailings sent out by Steve Langley and Bruce Linsey attacking each other. My advice is not to take it personally like so many have been doing. Instead, consider the Great Feud to be high drama for your entertainment, like "Dallas" or "Falcon Crest" only better, because MegaDip doesn't go into summer reruns, also this is, as Stephen Swigger put it, Diplomacy in real life. Just think of Bruce Linsey and Kathy Byrne as the JR Ewing and Alexis Colby of MegaDiplomacy, and see how much you enjoy yourself.

BM: Is anybody else enjoying themselves? Rest assured that if you are, you'll be drawn into it. That's not a threat, that's a warning.

Two and a half pages are enough on the feud for me. I'm going to bed, and shall finish this letter column tomorrow when I feel a bit less grumpy....

Did I really type in all that feudbleah last night? Guess so. Well, let's continue on with somewhat brighter topics...

L.C. HODGINS: Have you heard that Diplomacy World is bankrupt? Larry Peery is trying to reorganize the zine under a new structure, and in order to keep it alive I would ask that your subbers subscribe to the "new" DW and also donate at least \$10 US to the endowment fund (I did). The subs are completely new and cost \$12 in the USA and \$14 US in Canada. They might want to let Larry know that they are in support of his project 100%.

BM: They might, and for that matter I certainly have, but let's let Larry speak for his cause, from a letter sent only to me (as opposed to the other mailings which by now have been widely circulated).

LARRY PEERY: I need your help. I need a competent Canadian to act as a regional editor. --- the DIPCON regions, I think there should be a separate Canadian region. There are 16 Canadian subbers to DW at the moment. The RP demonstrates they have the quality.

So, I need someone to act as a regional editor, to send me the latest info on what's going on. It really isn't any different than what you do with XL, I just need it on a quarterly basis and from a reliable source. I also need someone to do some serious fund raising for DW up there.

If the readers vote to save DW (not a sure thing at all) then we've got to come up with the money to finance it. Will you, individually and the Canadians as a whole, help?

BM: In a letter sent to Larry, I've offered about all I can offer, and I urge you to do the same, whether you're Canadian or not. I'm not certain I understand some of your comments, Larry, especially the one about RP and quality (anyone can put numbers on a sheet of paper beside the zines they read), but I'm pleased to see that you plan to cover regional events, and include Canada as a region. Of course, none of this can possibly happen unless DW survives. I also think it's worth it.

SCOTT HANSON: I've got something else to blame on you -- the computer

bug. As soon as my student loan comes in, out it goes for C-64, disk drive, and printer. Of course, I'm buying it for my master's thesis -- that's "educational purpose", right? No need to say 90% of the time will be for Dip.

About your printer -- is it "real" letter quality or "near" letter quality? It looks fantastic in the zine -- I haven't seen the Roland printer here. I'm just wondering how much you paid for the decent print.

BM: The printer manual I got tells me that this is "near" letter quality -- it takes two passes to do each line, and in between it feeds the paper half the distance of one dot downwards, so that you get a simulated 12x18 dot matrix instead of the standard 9x9. The thing set me back about \$600 Canadian with the necessary interface, but I figure it's well worth it.

The following is the rest of Pete Gaughan's letter from last time, after "Are you quite sure Honduras has a Marxist government?":

PETE GAUGHAN: I like reading thru XL, but there's still a few bugs in the graphics. Your mixing and matching of type styles (3, I think), could be easily solved by using one style for banners and one style for headlines, even within CC. And frankly, your SC charts are not simple to read. Part of the problem is tiny handwriting, but most of it is the strange format.

But your printer is excellent -- I had no problem even reading the mailing list -- and your articles are very interesting (I'm a soccer fan too). I have to agree with Alan and hope you won't chop this letter if it's printed -- still, your letter column has great promise.

Why the complicated staple-and-tape arrangement? Envelopes too expensive? Is this a postal requirement?

BM: When it comes down to the nitty gritty, a publisher has to do things the way he thinks they would best be done. That answers almost every question posed, amazingly enough. I want CC to be separate, so I use a different graphic style. My feeling on SC charts is that more people want to know "Who owns Serbia", than "Which centres are German-controlled." I think it's a lot easier to find out who owns Ser with my SC charts, and only a bit harder to find out the list of centres for each country. I probably should do something about the lack of space for B's and R's though. Letter columns -- I feel unnatural answering so many questions at once, sso I break up letters. Also, I'm trying to set a precedent for the day when I receive a long letter, only part of which I want to print. And the tape-over-the-staples should have been gone by now: that was, I'm sure, an *ad lib* requirement concocted by a Canadian postal worker who was having a bad day. I don't expect a problem from Pt. Roberts. Envelopes are too expensive for me, but maybe I should look harder. Especially if your issues are getting mangled.

JOAN EXTROM: I've talked with BRUX a couple of times this week. He's so excited about your planned visit next summer. You'll have a great time. Have him take you to the Polynesian restaurant (but don't order the lichi nuts!)

BM: Interesting you should mention lichi nuts, as I was introduced to them last summer by the evening mechanic at the service station where I work. Nancy and I immediately were hooked, but we found out from Albert, the mechanic, that the ones from China are the best. If you get the cheap ones from Korea, you get big pits. I'll have to bring a sample to LepreCon '86!! (By the way, if you've still got that cider I left, I wouldn't drink it if I were you.....)

And now, to round this out, messages from people who, apparently, would rather be in Vancouver...

JERRY FALKINER: Oh oh. Winter is coming. That doesn't bother you though.

Missing Toronto? I devised a machine that would transport Toronto and drop it right beside Vancouver. I thought it was a good plan, but

when someone might notice Toronto is missing. The police would have to open a new file called "Missing Cities." Of course it has to be missing 24 hours before it can be recorded.

SEAN MCGONIGLE (August 9): Anyway Bruce, it's winter here, with temperatures as low as 2 or 3 degrees Celsius. Cold, eh? That's the trouble with living in a country where no one is more than 64 kilometers from the sea. Left from my place, about 30 minutes is the Tasman Sea, and right about the same time is the Pacific Ocean. In the summer the temperature can rise to 25 degrees but not much more, there is always a breeze.

BM: What comment can I possibly make about Jerry's letter?? The CBC treats Toronto as the centre of the known universe -- why??

Uh, Sean, the temperature range you describe sounds like *paradise* to me, except for one thing. I don't think I could ever adjust to celebrating Christmas in the middle of summer. Nancy's information (from Australian relatives) is that they sprinkle the lawn with styrofoam to create the "White Christmas" illusion. Is this true? Vancouver's temperature range is about -8 to +28 Celsius, with record temperatures at five degrees further. Being a Winter baby (December 1 1962), I greatly prefer the -8.

Thanks to a telephone call by Alan Stewart, we can get the third round results of the Do You Agree With Alan Stewart? contest down on paper a day before the originally scheduled time.

Only five responses received this month, two of them from this household, so it looks as though the prize will be five free issues only. Alan's answers were: Mickey Mantle over Willie Mays, Jim Brown over O.J., Humpty Dumpty (apparently a brand of potato chips) over Hostess, Joe Garagiola over Don Meredith, and Oxford's over Webster's. The resulting table:

Name	Score	Total	Pct.
Mike Barno	4-1	7-3	.700
Ron Krukowski	4-1	10-5	.667
Bill Becker	3-2	9-6	.600
Pete Gaughan	0-0	6-4	.600
Greg Ellis	0-0	3-2	.600
Nancy Hurrell	3-2	5-5	.500
Bruce McIntyre	2-3	6-9	.400

The next five are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 16) Adidas, or Nikes? | 19) General Motors, or Ford? |
| 17) Ramada, or Holiday Inn? | 20) Time, or Newsweek? |
| 18) Esso (Exxon), or Shell? | |

Good luck, and don't forget, you need to have answered fifteen of twenty-five for the prize of five free issues (or the equivalent in cash, if Greg should win, since we trade). Greg Ellis must answer both remaining rounds to qualify.



from the podium

I was quite pleased with the results of the Point Roberts experiment; I got a lot of response two weeks (imagine!) before the deadline, instead of the usual rush just before (or, in a few unfortunate cases, after) printing day. However I received one unison message from the publishers I wanted to reach with the short item I printed under that headline last time. In a nutshell, the response was "Bruce, what the hell are you talking about?"

Well, I must admit I was shocked at first. I honestly thought that publishers would have the decency to check the postal rates, especially when rates go up. But taking a calmer look at it (with the benefit of 10-12 letters asking me what I was so pissed off about), I realized that the USPS has really pulled off a beauty--it raised the rates without bothering to make it clear and simple.

I'll make it clear and simple here for the record (something I should have done last time, but...). (What record???) The rate for mailing things within the US or to Canada was 20 cents plus 17 cents per ounce past the first. It is now 22 cents (that part of the increase was obvious to everyone) plus 17 cents per extra ounce within the US, but they've sneakily raised it to 18 cents per extra ounce if you want to get it here. So you need to put 40 cents on most zines to get 'em here without meeting a postage due stamp somewhere along the way.

Along with the general queries, a few people did explain that the extra cent charge was rather difficult to notice, and it was not that pubbers were trying to save the extra cent, only that they didn't know. I, of course, apologize for insinuating any deliberate wrongdoing, when it seems obvious now that youse guys were in desperate need of a sheltered Canadian to find out what your postal rates were!! So there!

STAND BY PLEASE

Stand-bys called: Yes I know I forgot about calling stand-bys for Charles Arsenault and Melinda Holley, so I'll do so here. (Usually I'll have the sense to repeat the message in the game report, but this is the first time I've done a Housekeeping page, so bear with me.)

Stand-by for GERMANY in ALBINONI (page 20):

Lynn Torkelson, 992 Rosedale Rd. NE, Atlanta GA, USA 30306

For TURKEY in the same game:

Larry Peery, Box 8416, San Diego CA, USA 92102

Stand-by for ITALY in BEETHOVEN (page 21):

Claude Gautron, 150 rue Masson, Winnipeg MB, Canada R2H 0H2



HOUSEKEEPING

The very existence of this page proves a point--it's easier to keep track of something if it's in the zine in the first place. With that in mind, I hope you will watch this page from time to time because I'm quite likely to treat it as pure gospel, even if it's blatantly wrong.

Welcome to:

J.C. Hodgins, 16 Farr Ave., Sharon ON, Canada L0G 1V0
 Paul Gardner, Rt 1, Box 2338, Newfane VT, USA 05345 (Not New York)
 Ron (California) Brown, 1528 El Sereno Pl., Bakersfield CA, USA 93304
 (Murdering Ministers)
 T.E. Johnson, 2 Chaucer Dr., Newark DE, USA 19713
 Dave Kleiman, 651 Fenster Court, Indianapolis IN, USA 46234
 Wayne Wittal, P.O. Box 159, Wells BC, V0K 2R0
 Don Wagner, ???, Burnaby BC Canada
 Should be interesting to see how PaperClip sorts the two Ron Browns now!

Good-bye to:

Linda Carson & Jim Gardner, Bill Shirley (though he's getting a reprieve since he's in ALBINONI).

Assorted items of subscription-extending monetary value received from:
 Pierre Touchette, Rosie Roberts. This does not include the newcomers above, all of whom have paid to appear on this page!

Sub Warnings: (NONE, One, or Two issues left in your sub after this one.): Mark Berch, Ron Brown (CAN), Claude Gautron, Steve Hutton, Rob Lowes, Sean McGonigle (to \$9 + 1/2), Ralph Norton, Ted Shannon, BILL SHIRLEY (ran out last time, and is rather fortunate to be seeing this!), and that's all. You might think that it's a bit looney to be warning people about their subs two issues before they expire, but in this case, with the "standard" block buying from day one, I have seven subbers running out at \$10, and thirteen running out at \$11. Please don't wait till the last moment. I'd rather type in articles than correct my financial records all night....

Stand-bys for regular Diplomacy are: Bob Acheson, Charles Arsenault, Kevin Brown, Claude Gautron, Ron Krukowski, Larry Peery, Craig Reges, Bill Shirley, Alan Stewart, Lynn Torkelson, Pierre Touchette. Want in or out? Just ask! New rule: Stand-bys play for free--including their subscription. What this means is if you're called here, you will receive one free issue of XL tacked onto your sub for each season you played, including holdovers, provided you do not drop.

Gamestarts:

Diplomacy: ELGAR: Stephen Swigger, 6 wanted.

Patterns II: Charles Arsenault, 3-5 wanted, room for any number if enough interested.

Superhourse: Anyone can sign up at any time, rules straddled betwixt XL#6-7.
International Trivia: Starts next issue, unlimited numbers with a minimum of five.

International Diplomacy: This game will not be started until we've seven different countries represented. The three players who applied for this and got COPLAND instead (Charles Arsenault--Canada, Ben Schilling--USA, and Sean McGonigle--New Zealand) have priority unless they want out. Four needed.