

12th March, 1972

Edited by John Piggott, 17 Monmouth Road, Oxford, OX1 4TD, U.K., and duplicated by Ian Maule at Newcastle, home of Brown Ale. This fanzine is freely available for trade, money (5p per issue or 20/£1), and any other reason which takes the editor's fancy. This is Tapeworm Production Number 4. Beware of imitations.

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Publications Received

BUSHWACKER 1.1 (Fred C. Davis Jr., 5307 Carriage Ct., Baltimore, MD 21229, U.S.A.) is a new zine to report on games of Abstraction, Atlantica, and Germany Vs. The World, three Dippy variants invented by Fred. Five dollars per game - this is deliberately set high to discourage casual players and 'drop-outs'. The zine is being sent to players and traders only. EtF will be trading with BUSHWACKER, and I hope to reprint rules for Atlantica and Germany Vs The World if Fred is amenable.

MOESHOESHOE xix (Michel Feron, Grand-Place 7, B-4280 HANNUT, Belgium) contains the Spring 1901 move of Jeu M-2. Another game will soon start, making MOESHOESHOE the first French-language zine to carry more than one game at a time. Game fee is 75 FB; I think this translates to 75p or thereabouts.

BORDURIE 1 (Michel Feron, as above) contains the first six moves of a two player Dippy game between Michel and Michael Frayn, which I personally found absorbing. It comes as a supplement to MOESHOESHOE. Be warned that Andy Davidson was unable to read either of these as they're both in French...

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Letters

HARTLEY PATTERSON The Don Miller game you're thinking of is Twin-Earth Dippy. You have the rules about right. Support, convoy etc. are also possible between boards. The boards are labelled 'I' and 'II', so a move might be A TunI-TunII. Players start with normal units on each board, and other rules are as normal.

Hyperspace Dippy is different. One board is used, and each player may link up or break a link between any two spaces, one change per move. There may be some limitations on this, I'm not sure.

Other Miller games: Mordor Vs The World, Game of anonymity (players don't know each other and diplomacy is conducted via press releases), various Economic Dippys, 9-man Dippy (with Iberia & Scandinavia), Chaos (each supply centre with a different player) and more...

One of the simpler Economic Dippys might be fun... where costs are levied for unopposed moves/opposed moves/retreats/raising units. Puts a curb on the warmongers! The game I should most like to see apart from Dippy is Strategy I, the S&T multi-player game. The Roman Civil War looks simple enough to GM... ((I'd prefer to stick to Dippy and its variants since I'm moderately familiar with these. I'll see if I can get further details of the games you mention. - JCP))

FRED DAVIS 'Bushwacker' is the name of a comic strip and science-fiction character I invented back in my schooldays. In my first issue I am going to admit violating all the rules of postal Diplomacy by giving my publication a name which was neither German nor unspellable nor esoteric, and not even related to Middle-Earth! I'm glad to see that someone else is breaking the 'German-Middle-Earth' hold on Dippy zines' titles! ((I'd be interested to know what JRRT thinks about his books being taken over by wargamers as well as students... I thought of using a Tolkien title for EtF but refrained, deciding that since I live within walking distance of Tolkien's home it would seem a little too obvious... - JCP))

Have you ever thought of using the 'Risk' board to play Diplomacy on? A few changes would be needed, such as adding "Russia" above "Ukraine", and designating supply centres, but it could be done as a 7-player game, a la Youngstown Variant. ((That sounds an idea worth looking into. I'll investigate further when I get home. - JCP))

GRAHAM JEFFERY What happens if a player modifies his move, and his modification arrives late but before you've made the adjudication? Is the new move automatically ruled void because it is late? ((Late moves and modifications will be accepted provided that I have not already typed up the stencil when I receive them. - JCP))

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Odds and sods

CHESSMANCON, the 23rd annual British SF convention, is being held over the weekend 31 March - 2 April 1972, at the Blossoms Hotel, Chester. Ian Maule, Hartley Patterson and myself will be attending and it's likely that a Dippy game will be taking place there at some stage. EtF will report on any wargaming proceedings.

THE TURNING WORM, a fanzine edited by myself on the subject of science fiction fandom, is available from your friendly editor, price 5p.

MAYA, edited by Ian Maule, is available from him at 10p. The third issue has just come out and contains one hell of a lot of reports on last year's Easter convention.

Deadline for Spring 1902 moves will be Tuesday, April 4, 1972. Please remember to send the moves to Oxford and not Cambridge.

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'A' Game (1972K) -- Autumn 1901

RUSSIA: Over the past couple of months, PRAVDA has been reporting on three main topics.

The government-instituted inquiry into the disappearance of the ex-leaders has not arrived at any certain conclusions, but it is thought in most circles that the incident was an IRA plot, backed by the British Parliament to defame the Russian nation. It is insisted that an immediate answer be given, and, should they be innocent, we ask the help of the British people in apprehending those responsible for the outrage.

The latest news of the Oceanographical Expedition is that, due to force ten gales blowing down from the north, the fleet has suspended operations temporarily and gone to ground in Stockholm. However, the survey of the Baltic is complete and the maps produced are freely available to all nations. The Swedish Oceanographical Research Institute has already ordered a set. The Expedition, at the request of many governments, will now proceed to make a systematic survey of the North Sea.

Although, in true Russian fashion, it has not been stated outright, it is hinted that a Russian-born scientist, Yuri Kha, late of the T.P.S., Oldham, U.K., has defected from the west. With his first-hand knowledge of the English research and progress an A.B.T. (Anti-Ballistic Tripe) has been developed and the first field tests are likely to take place in the near future.

Other news included a report of the Czar's recent state visit, his first since coming to the throne, to Switzerland. He expressed the need to maintain some sanity in this time of international chaos, and thus offered Russian aid to support Swiss neutrality.

And that concludes this year's look at the headlines.

AUSTRIA: Hungarian troops have invaded Serbia, and the Austrian fleet is making for Greece after violent clashes have arisen in the Balkans. The vacuum left by Turkey's recent decline has caused massacres and revolutions, which the Great Powers, including Russia, have clamped tightly down on in their own countries. To prevent it spreading we have re-occupied former Turkish provinces, which that nation had mistakenly thought were ready for self-government, in order to preserve peace. The world is our judge; to the fact that suppression of racial minorities, once a Turkish speciality, has now passed to our great Empire.

Rumour has it that the Bulgars are refusing to pay their taxes AGAIN. Boy! will they never learn? Up bashee bazookas and at 'em!

The Emperor expresses his thanks to 'FIFI' (whoever she is) for the Valentine card.

FRANCE: There has been a bumper crop of grapes this year, and because of this it has been decided that every soldier will be given a bottle of wine as a token of gratitude for his courageous and unflinching efforts in the continuing struggle. The president himself will meet the vast cost of

this gift out of his own pocket.

Taxes are to be increased by 10%.

The morale of the French people has never been so high. Our generals are confident of large reinforcements at the end of this year thanks to the increase of the number of men joining the army and navy.

As for the threat of attack by tripe bombs, it has been disregarded as being highly improbable. Perhaps we can expect black pudding submarines next. We have always suspected the English are totally mad.

The French would also like it known that they will conduct their affairs in an honourable and gentlemanly manner, and they expect their neighbours to do likewise.

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- ENGLAND (Jones): F Nrg-Nwy S by F Nth; A Edi-Yor.
- GERMANY (Davidson): F Den-Nth; A Ruh-Bel; A Kie-Hol.
- RUSSIA (Jeffery): F GoB-Swe; A StP-Nwy; A Ukr-Sev S by F Rum.
- TURKEY (Feintuck): A Bul-Ser; A Con-Bul; F Bla stands.
- AUSTRIA (Robertson): F Alb-Gre S by A Ser; A Tri stands.
- ITALY (Maule): F Ion-Tun; A Pie-Mar; A Ven stands.
- FRANCE:(Christianson): F MAO-Por; A Spa-Mar; A Pic-Bel.

England.....	3 bases:	Lon, Lpl, Edi.	No change.
Germany.....	5 bases:	Mun, Ber, Kie, Den, Hol.	Build F Kie, A Mun.
Russia.....	6 bases:	StP, Mos, War, Sev, Rum, Swe.	Build A Mos, A War.
Turkey.....	4 bases:	Con, Ank, Smy, Bul.	Build F Smy.
Austria.....	5 bases:	Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Gre.	Build A Vie, A Bud.
Italy.....	4 bases:	Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun.	Build F Nap.
France.....	5 bases:	Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por.	Build F Mar, A Par.

Address Changes

Three important ones, the university migrations:

- Andy Davidson, Flat D5, Harewood Court, Marsland Road, Sale, Cheshire.
(from March 13)
- Phil Jones, 85 The Downs, Alkrington, Middleton, Manchester M24 1TT
(from March 17)
- David Christianson, 14 The Croft, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. Tel: 27346.
("on or about March 18 to April 18")

Waiting Lists

Regular: Mick Christianson, Bruce Davidson, Martin Davis.

Abstraction: Andy Davidson, Graham Jeffery, David Christianson, Kevin Feintuck, Martin Davis.

Next deadline is first post on Tuesday, April 4. Liverpudlians should note that the last collection at Liverpool to ensure first delivery at Oxford (and Cambridge as well, for that matter) the following morning is at 5.15 p.m. or somesuch ridiculous time.

Next issue should see the publication (at last!) of the rules and map for Abstraction. I hope also to be running an advertising campaign in the pages of ALBION which will hopefully bring us in a few more players so we can make a start on a few more games.

It's now 1.25 p.m. and time to stop. Watching Frankenstein movies and drinking till four in the morning is not guaranteed to work wonders for the typing fingers... Luckily I stencilled all but the last page of this on Thursday, otherwise god only knows when it would be out.

Adieu till next.